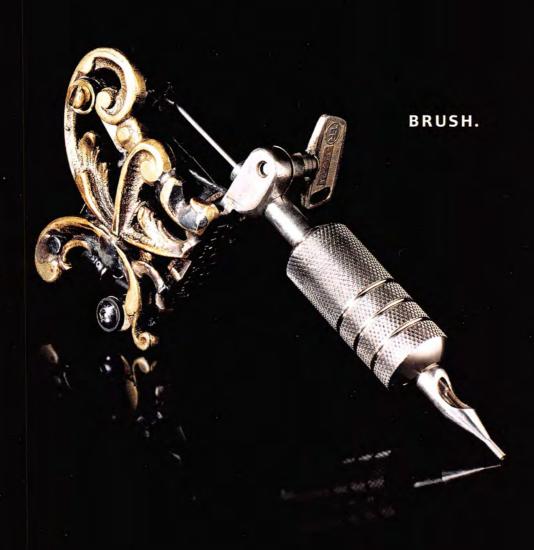


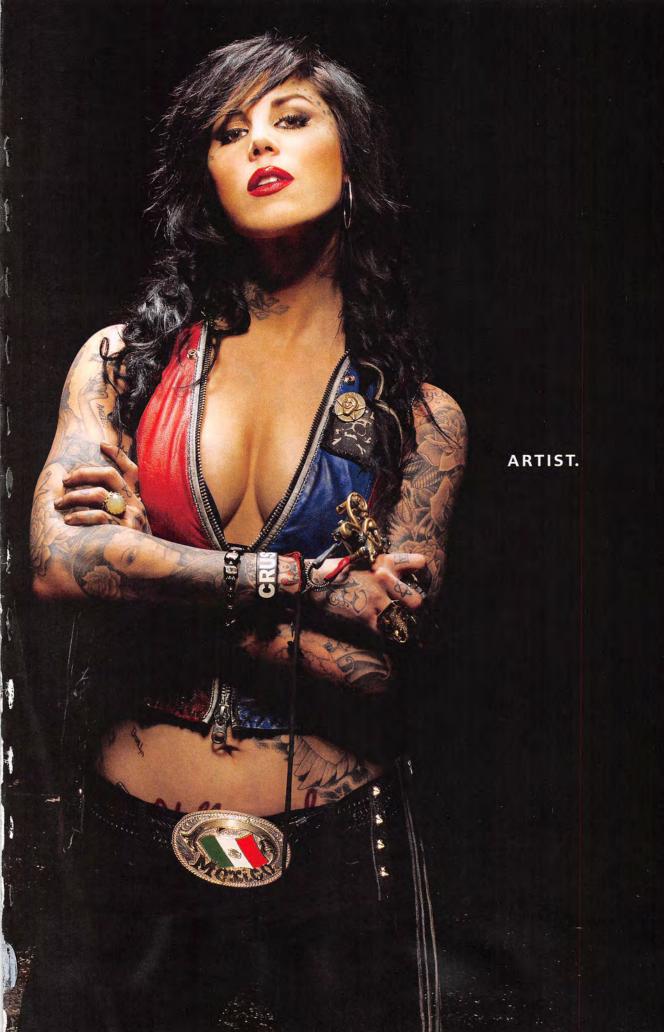
#### WIN A NEW PONTIAC VIBE TATTOOED BY KAT VON D.

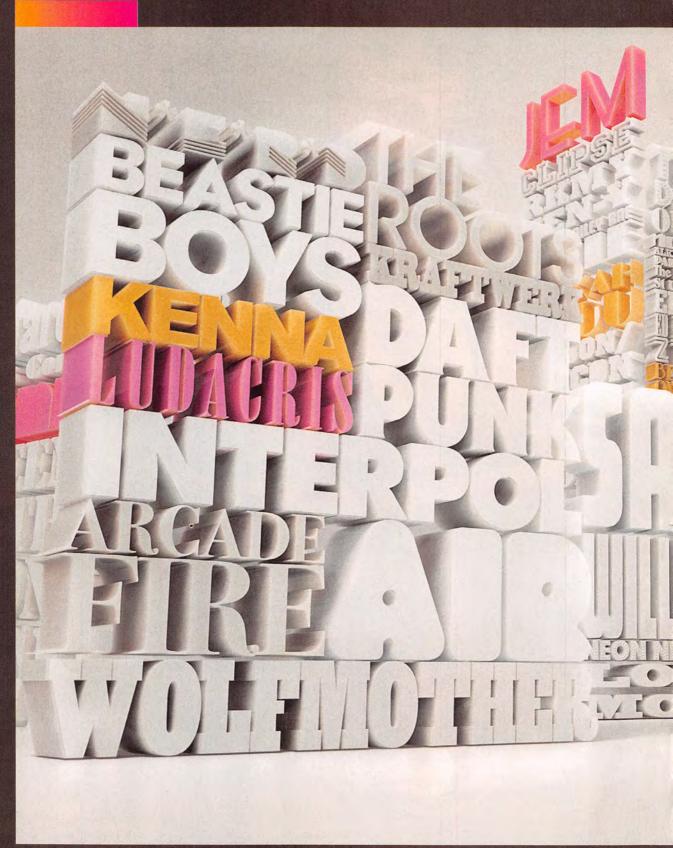
Maxim Hot 100 girl Kat Von D is turning the all-new Vibe into her own mobile tattoo studio. The plan: Hit the road, plug her machine into the Vibe's 3-prong household outlet and tattoo some cool people. Once she's done putting her ink on their skin, those same designs will end up on her Vibe. Then when her art's complete, she'll personally hand the Vibe keys over to one lucky sonofagun. Enter for a chance to win\* and watch exclusive video of it all at maxim.com/vondsvibe.



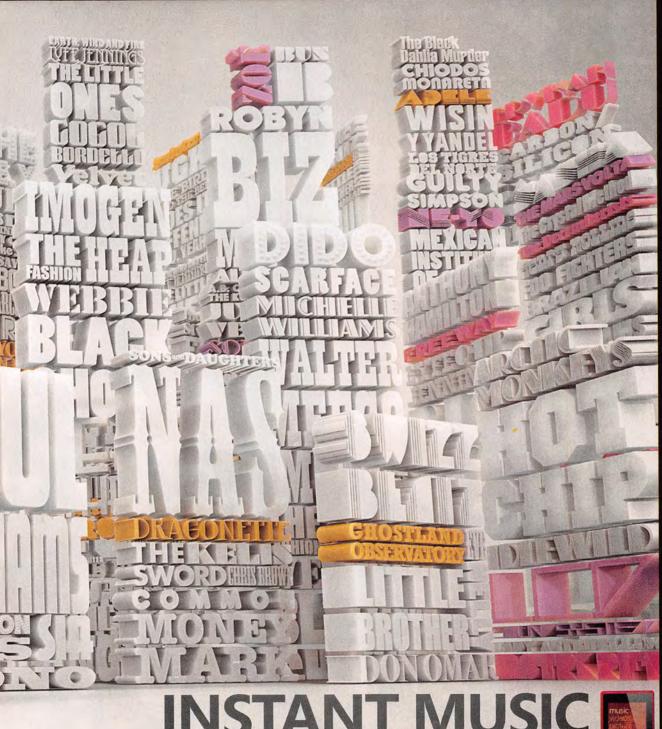
\*No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Must be legal U.S. resident, 21 years or older to enter. To enter, visit maxim.com/vondsvibe (the "Website"). Sweepstakes begins 5/15/08 and ends 7/15/08. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. For complete official rules and prize restrictions, go to the Website or see page 46. The sweepstakes sponsor is Dennis Publishing, Inc. ©2008 GM Corp. All rights reserved. Pontiac Rontiac logo Vibe







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# INSTANT MUSIC COLLECTION

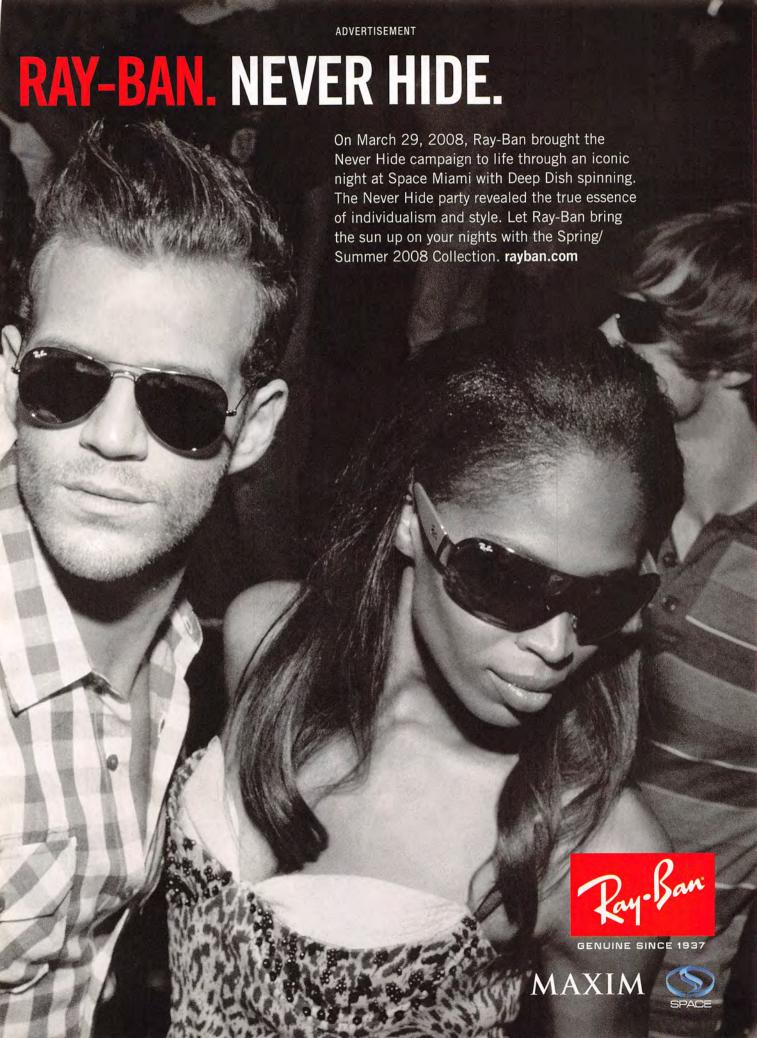
MILLIONS OF TRACKS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE CD



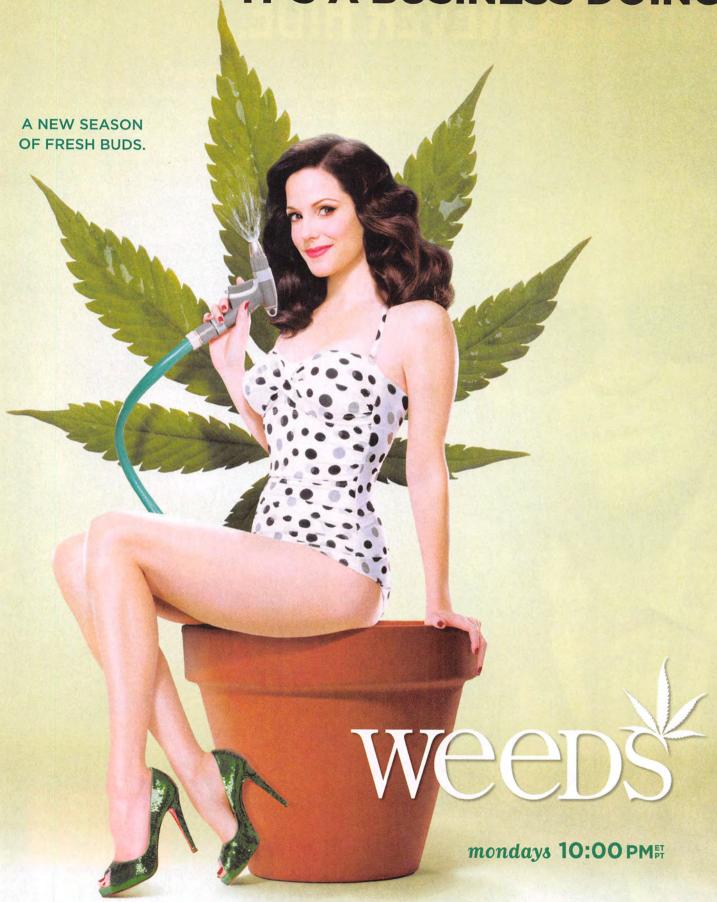


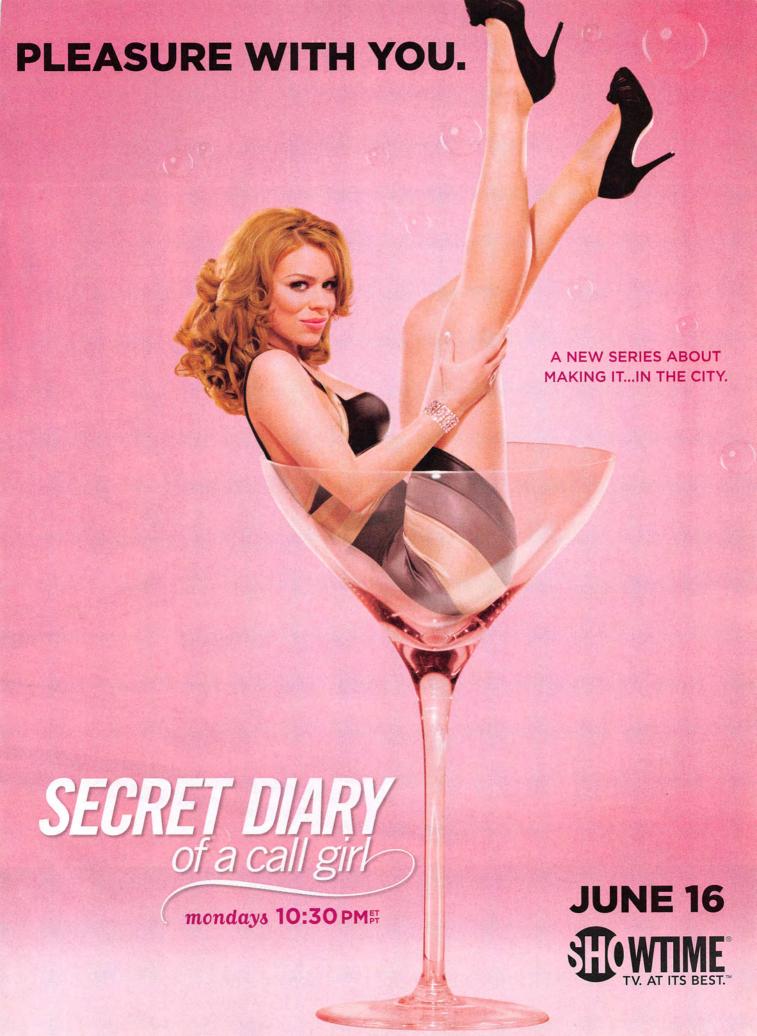
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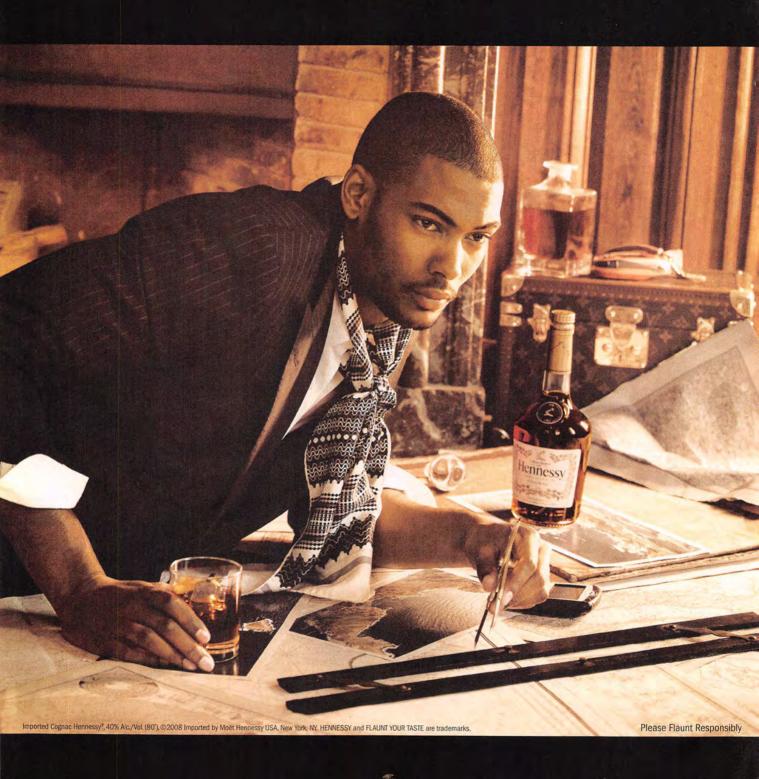
#### IT'S A BUSINESS DOING





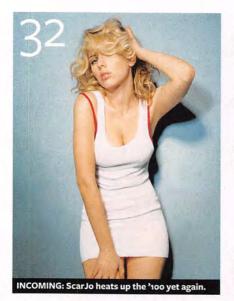
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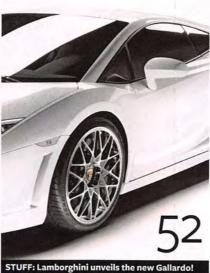
YOUR TASTE

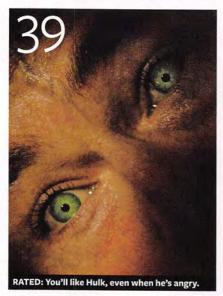


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18 Letters

Our new reader index breaks down your rants and raves, and one lucky Maximfan wins an incredibly cool golf club.

#### 22 Incoming

The Hot 100's top 10 temptresses, Japanese bug fighting, and our NBA Finals quiz to test your hoops IQ.

#### Rated

The Incredible Hulk smashes the cineplex, Ashton Kutcher on his last day on Earth, and the final Metal Gear Solid.

#### 52 Stuff

We torture-test the best tents you can buy, swap sweats with the Black Keys, and find decent gifts for Dad's Day.

#### Columns

The world's suckiest sportscasters, a top chef's worst nightmare, and how to strong-arm the weak dollar.

#### 127 Expert

Summer's best concerts dissected, the deadliest critters analyzed, and tips on surviving a Katrina-style hurricane!

#### Style

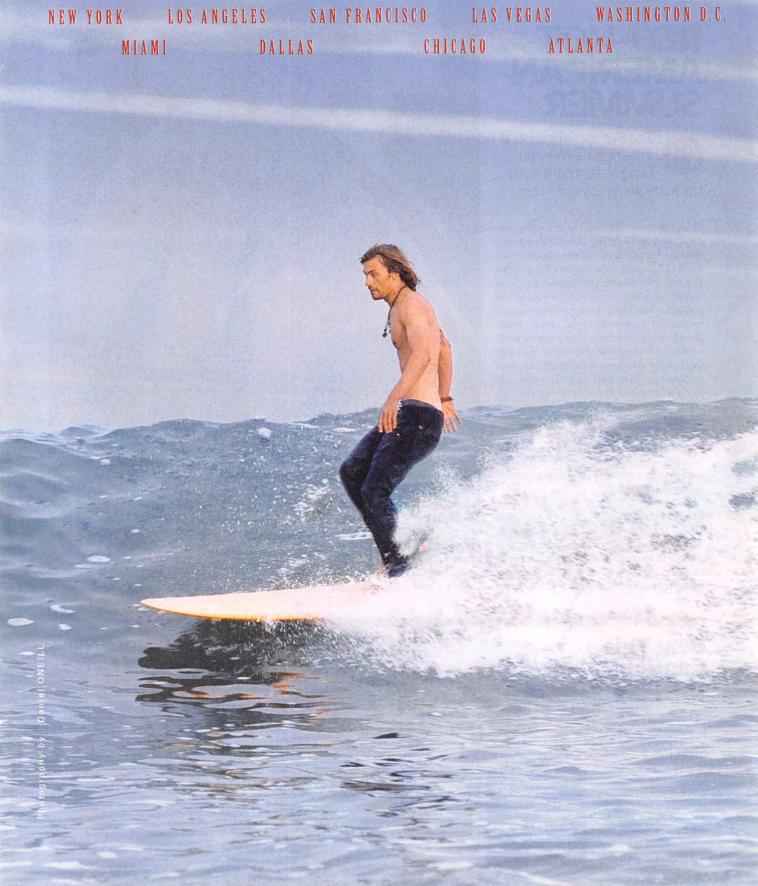
Diego Luna dresses up and talks down his impressive cred as an actor, director, and producer. Meanwhile, we do our best to forgive his irrational love of soccer.

#### 156 The Decider

Check your melanin at the door, people! The Decider will finally answer, "What Race Are You?"



www.truereligionbrandjeans.com



#### RED-HOT AMERICAN SUMMER

The Hot 100 is here! And if the beast within you hungers for more, keep the party going at Maxim.com!

There are Oscar winners, there are Grammy divas, there are TV darlings, and there are supermodels-but in order to claim true goddess status, it's all about cracking Maxim's Hot 100. This year's all-star collection of the sexiest women on Earth is so big and so hot it just couldn't be contained within the 32 pages of the special newsstand supplement you've no doubt already read front to back. That's why the hardworking cyberfreaks at Maxim.com have lovingly prepared even more exclusive content of the ladies you all love to love (we know the only thing better than a photo of your favorite sexy star is more photos of your favorite sexy star). Head to the Web site for mind-blowing galleries for each of the Hot 100 honorees as well as behind-the-scenes videos from many of the beauties' exclusive Maxim photo shoots. No need to send us money; your tears of happiness are thanks enough.

#### Sound Advice

Maxim.com and Blender.com have made it their business to ensure no lighters are left unhoisted or Porta-Johns unturned at any of this summer's big music festivals. We have doused ourselves in patchouli and worked up

**ARE YOURS!** 



a tolerance to drum solos to get backstage at all the monster shows, and we've got the exclusive video to prove it. Invest in some serious earplugs, because Maxim.com is planting you right in front of the speakers. Holler if you can no longer hear us.

#### Fun, Games, and Vegas

After you tour the College Campus of Comedy (p.100), where we send today's best comedians back to school, see what the hell is so funny

with Maxim.com's collection of the most hilarious performances of all time. If you prefer your laughs to be of the unintentional variety, listen to the lamest calls ever from "The 10 Worst Broadcasters in Sports" (p.67). Also check out special Sin City—flavored exclusives from the new Ashton Kutcher, Cameron Diaz movie, What Happens in Vegas. Get clicking, boy!

Girlfriend burn your Hot 100 supplement in a fit of rage? Turn to page 32 to check out the 100's top 10.

### Beat This Caption!

#### TO ENTER

 Slap our caption around like you really mean it and drop your line at maxim.com/contests.

2. If your joke passes the gauntlet of our strict standards (ha!), your eyes will stay UV radiation free all summer in these crisp shades.

3. Check maxim.com to see if you've won!





#### Give Your Phone the Gift of Maxim

It's the one present (besides a pony!) that keeps on giving.

Funny/sexy/painful videos on V CAST On Demand's Maxim Channel Text MXM2243 to 51954

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fter a long, brutal winter here at Maxim, summer has finally announced itself. Outside our 16th-floor windows, we can see that skirts are getting shorter and days longer; inside, two large water bugs crawled out from under our kitchenette sink and spent all day dying next to the soft drink machine. It happens each year and never fails to bring a tear to our eyes! Summer brings excitement, a sense of renewal, and, in certain competitors, an urge to "borrow" content. (Hey, GQ, we're looking in your direction...Glad you heart our regular Decider feature [p.156] so much! Maybe too much?) Everyone loves the hot season, which is why we devoted 10 pages of this issue to our special feature "60 Ways to Have the Ultimate Summer (see p.78)." From the sexiest beaches to the coolest toys and the most gluttonous food festivals in America, our entire staff pitched in to layout the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever. Frankly, the story-continuous properties of the perfect game plan to your best summer ever game plan to your game plan to youlike the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, "6o Things That Are Supposed to the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment too soon. Our original feature, and the season-comes not a moment to season-comes not a moment toto Be Great About Summer But Aren't," just didn't seem to hit the right notes. A few highlights:

Collecting beach glass: "Check out my sweet jar of beach glass! Pretty cool, huh? Where are you guys going?"-Associate editor Jesse Will

Waterparks: "Twenty-five bucks to splash around in recycled hepatitis A virus on the water slide/ enema machine. It's all I've been thinking about since October!"—Senior editor Maria Fontoura Family reunions: "Yes, Uncle Phil, look: I'm a big boy now."—Senior associate editor Mike Dawson Roof parties: "Hey, is that the smell of roasting tar paper? Next weekend let's have a rave in my attic!"-Executive editor Dan Bova

Iced coffee: "I like sipping it through a straw. It's just so yummy!"—Deputy editor Chris Wilson



James Kaminsky **Editorial Director** 

But truly the greatest thing about summer is the return of our annual Hot 100 issue—the one you are holding in your hands right now. (If you're a subscriber, get to a newsstand and pick up one of those fancy bagged issues STAT!) Someone once said, "Judge not lest you be judged." Well, sorry, Son of Man, that's what the Hot 100 is all about. For the ninth year running, we have peered deep into the pop culture universe and plucked out the sexiest celestial bodies who are making the deepest impact on our little lives this year. We examined their portfolios, analyzed their résumés, and dug through their trash to determine where they ranked on a list second only to Schindler's in global importance. It is a wonder to behold (as is Rod Stewart in a Speedo-see p.84.).

OK, enough. Slap on some sunscreen and get to the fun.

#### THE HOT 100 INDEX

A scientific breakdown of this year's list.

#### TATTOOED LOVELIES

Megan Fox, Avril Lavigne, Kat Von D, Christina Aquilera, Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan, Ashlee Simpson, Jaime King, Christina Ricci, Eva Longoria, Sarah Michelle Gellar

#### ADMITTED BISEXUALS

Tila Teguila

**WON DANCING WITH** THE STARS Cheryl Burke

WON THE JAPAN **INDY 300 RACE** 

Danica Patrick

WON A NIGHT WITH WILMER VALDERRAMA Lindsay Lohan



#### Jennifer Love Hewitt, Jessica Simpson, Minka Kelly

#### MOTHERS WE'D LIKE TO HUG

Christina Aguilera, Britney Spears, Heidi Klum, Jennifer Garner, Nelly Furtado, Jennifer Connelly, Sofia Vergara, Jessica Alba

#### LENT THEIR VOICE TO ROBOT CHICKEN

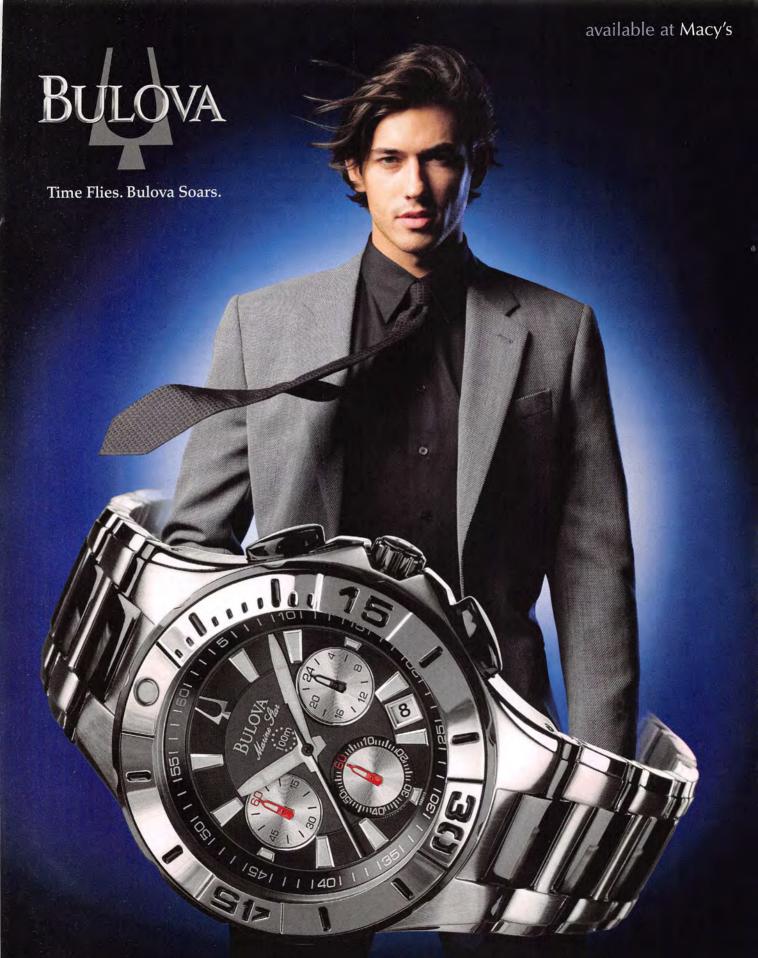
Sarah Michelle Gellar, Mila Kunis, Scarlett Johansson, Charlize Theron, Hayden Panettiere

LENT THEIR SIGNATURE TO A RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST US



PHOTOGRAPH, NIGEL PARRY, GROOMING, JENNAMENARD (KAMINSKY); PATRICK, JONATHAN FERREY GETT VIMAGES, MAYER, SCOTT TWEINEGREET NALTDS, SIMPSON, CHROS EDEBRIGHENOTOCOM-GLOBE HOTOGS, KELLV, JESSE GRANTJSTRINGER/GETT YIMAGES, HEWITT, JEFREY MAYERVINE IMAGE





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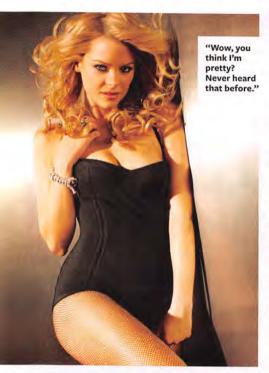
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#### JUNE BUGGIN'!

Summer winds are blowing steamy feedback into our office. Can somebody crack a window?



#### **Two Timing**

Thank you, Maxim, for putting two of the sexiest women on the planet in your April issue (Jaime King and Sofia Vergara). And while I appreciate the double dose, Sofia is muy caliente, and I think she deserves her own cover!

#### Rich Cesarini Brockton, MA

I'm sure Sofia will be psyched to hear that you have declared her "muy caliente." She also loves it when dudes compare her to hot sauce, jalapeños, and basically anything the t'excelly spin. Keny

cally anything that's really spicy. Keep those smooth lines coming, bro-dog!

#### Jokes on You!

I love you, Maxim. But what happened to the Jokes page? It was the first thing I read every month. Hope you have a good excuse.

#### Dan Mannion via e-mail

The Jokes page has passed on to that hacky comedy club in the sky, where every situation unfolds in a bar, a doctor's office, or on a deserted island. At least you still have Leno's monologue to keep you in stitches!

#### **Boston Tea Bag Party**

As a diehard Boston sports fan, I must correct Jeff Pearlman's story ["Boston Massacre," April] on two points. One, the Red Sox sold Babe Ruth, they did not trade him. Two, we have always been assholes...We just now happen to be assholes whose teams are winning. Go, Sox!

#### Dave McGrath Worcester, MA

They "traded" Babe Ruth for money. See how that works? And if your plan was to diffuse the asshole charges by playfully admitting that you are indeed one, then, well, your plan kind of worked...asshole.

#### Ridin' High

I looked at the cover picture for the feature "Ghost Rider" [April] and was shocked to see what looks like George Washington's face on the crest of the wave. If you look two inches down, and one inch left of the fold, you can see it clear as day.

#### David M. Lenexa, KS

We're guessing that the surfing legend profiled— Peter Davi—isn't the only guy who liked a little crystal meth from time to time, eh, David' We can't wait until we receive your letter claiming you saw Rutherford B. Hayes in Elisha Cuthbert's cleavage.

#### Ass-tro-nut

You should have put your NASA story ["Let's Go NASA," April] in the opinion section; insteadyou ran a totally misleading story in your features section. Go back to the Middle Ages with your attitudes!

#### Kenneth Bilash Upper Darby, PA

Keep it light, Kenneth. We didn't realize that goofing on NASA was cause for being banished back to medieval times. But if your time machine is working, we'd totally be up for feasting on mutton and mead while wearing chain mail pants right about now.



#### **Mail Bonding**

A by-the-numbers breakdown of this month's missives

81% of you who read our "Upgrade Everything" package have admittedly only upgraded a few things so far. It's cool, tubby. You've got time.



63% of mail about April cover girl Jaime King used the words "smokin' hot" and/or "boner-tastic." And, no, we're not giving up her digits.



23 % of envelopes had American flag stamps—the kind you lick, not the kind you stick. We know this because we reuse all your stamps.



33 % of all letters smelled vaguely of Axe Bodyspray. The rest reeked of Drakkar Noir, BBQ sauce, B.O., and creamed corn, in that order.



47% of responses to the "Boston Massacre" piece signed off with, "Go fahk yourself." Thanks for the suggestion. We were great!



15% of letters that referred to "rock-hard abs," "sweat-soaked lunges," and "hot baby oil" were intended for Men's Health magazine.



14 % of you who praised our "Creeping Hair Syndrome" chart asked for wig-wearing tips. Your packet is in the mail, Jeremy Piven!



#### LETTER OF THE MONTH

#### What the Cluck?

I was in the Cayman Islands and came across this sight that intrigued and disturbed me. I thought it would make a good photo for your mag. Thanks, and keep up the good work!

#### Steve Hoffman via e-mail

The fact that these feathery freaks would frequent an establishment that cooks their own kind chills us to our very core. But maybe they just really like the biscuits! In any event, we're giving you a Callaway I-Mix driver for your trouble. We hope you and your tasty friends enjoy it.



Introducing Bud Light Lime." The superior drinkability of Bud Light® with a splash of 100% natural lime flavor. One taste, and you'll find the summer state of mind…it's in "The Lime."



# GIVE YOUR SUMMER A TWIST.





# Fusion. phenomenal guide to grooming

10 TIPS, O EXCUSES: ALL YOU NEED TO PUT YOUR BEST FACE FORWARD

#### 1 Treat Your Skin Right.

■ Before you start shaving, wash with warm water for three minutes to soften your hair. Afterwards, rinse with cool water to reduce inflammation.

2 To Look Your Best, Use the Best.

No matter how much time you spend at the gym, your face makes the first impression. The Gillette Fusion Power razor gives you Gillette's smoothest, most comfortable shave ever.

3 Shave Daily to Clear Your Mug.
Razor bumps might make people think you're reliving your awkward teens. Shaving every day with Gillette Fusion Power is clinically proven to reduce these unsightly bumps.

#### 4 Keep Your Blades Fresh for Your Optimal Shave.

Tired of guessing when your razor's kaput? Gillette Fusion Phenom's Enhanced Indicator® strip fades to white when you're not getting your optimal shave anymore. Just pop off the blade and attach a new one.

Don't Forget Other Problem Areas. You've come a long way since the caveman days, so use the Gillette Fusion Phenom on trouble (read: deal-breaking) spots...like your back.

6 Use the Precision Trimmer for Facial-Hair Styling and Maintenance.

Girlfriend told you she's into sideburns? The Fusion Power Phenom's Precision Trimmer trims, shapes, and sculpts any look, whether it's corporate or creative.

7 Be "Sensitive" to Your Sensitive Skin.
Lather up with a mild shave gel, such
as Gillette Fusion HydraGel™ Ultra-Sensitive
Shave Gel, shave with the Fusion Phenom
razor, and moisturize with Gillette Fusion
Hydra Soothe™ After Shave Balm.

Shave Your Head the Right Way.
When the occasion (or genetics) call for a smooth dome, don't skimp with a lesser razor—trust Gillette's 5 Blade Shaving Surface Technology.

#### 9 Protect Your Face From Summer's Elements.

'Tis the season for sun, sand, and swimming. If you're headed to the beach or pool, try to shave early in the morning, since chlorine and salt irritate freshly shaven skin.

Look Tan, Fit, and Well-Rested.
Shaving naturally exfoliates, getting rid of flaky skin and ensuring an optimal tan. Look for a sunscreen that's "noncomedogenic"— a fancy term for "won't make you break out."

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For more shaving info and tips, visit gillettefusion.com



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so you barely feel the blades

The world's most comfortable shave



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Gillette

The Best a Man Can Get

# (IF IT'S OUT

MY FIRST TIME

onna Feldman (no relation to overthesmall screen, opening in his "Tired of Being Sorry" video. This month she rocks the big screen in about an Israeli soldier who becomes a New York City hairdresser (we'll let you decide if Corey...we think) has lorded briefcases on Deal or No Deal and biting Enrique Iglesias Adam Sandler's You Don't Mess With the Zohan, hilarity ensues). Some of her other big firsts:

# First Impression of Adam Sandler

met. He had me laughing all day long. There's one scene where he's barbecuing and wearing Adam is the most non-Hollywood person I've tiny boy shorts. The outfit alone cracks me up.

# First Breakup

It was traumatic. I found out the guy was a Peru, but he made up a bullshit story that he pathological liar. He was an illegal alien from was related to royalty. You've never heard such crazy stories. Bad news!







#### Limbo

Australian scientists are developing a radiocontrolled reversible vasectomy. A valve is surgically injected, allowing your baby batter to be dammed up with the push of a button. That's sure to be one epic battle for the remote.

#### The Greedy

Ugly Betty is bringing her unpleasant visage to the Far East, as China will get its own adaptation of the show under the wonderfully clunky title Invincible Ugly Woman. If it were called that here, we might actually watch it!

#### The Violent

The next time you're visiting Azerbaijan, stay at the Full Moon Hotel, a 521-foot-tall ringer for the Death Star. Just make sure your room isn't anywhere near the thermal exhaust port, which is about the width of a womp rat. Trust us.

#### 2 The Lustful

From the Land of the Rising Sun comes this lickable treasure: Viagra ice cream. No one knows how much—if any—of Pfizer's little blue miracle is in the stuff, but young ladies might want to avoid the local Baskin-Robbins anyway.

#### The Sullen

Poor Las Vegas. The Celtics and the Lakers opened the NBA season with shitty odds (70-1 and 30-1, respectively). Diehard fans bet anyway—right before killer trades made both squads heavy favorites. Pay up, Sin City!

#### The Fraudulent

The Pro Bull Riders tour is steroid-testing...its bulls. Too many owners have accepted the dangers of juicing for the big purses that come with even more aggressive bulls. We'd have thought tying that rope around its balls did the trick.

#### The Gluttonous

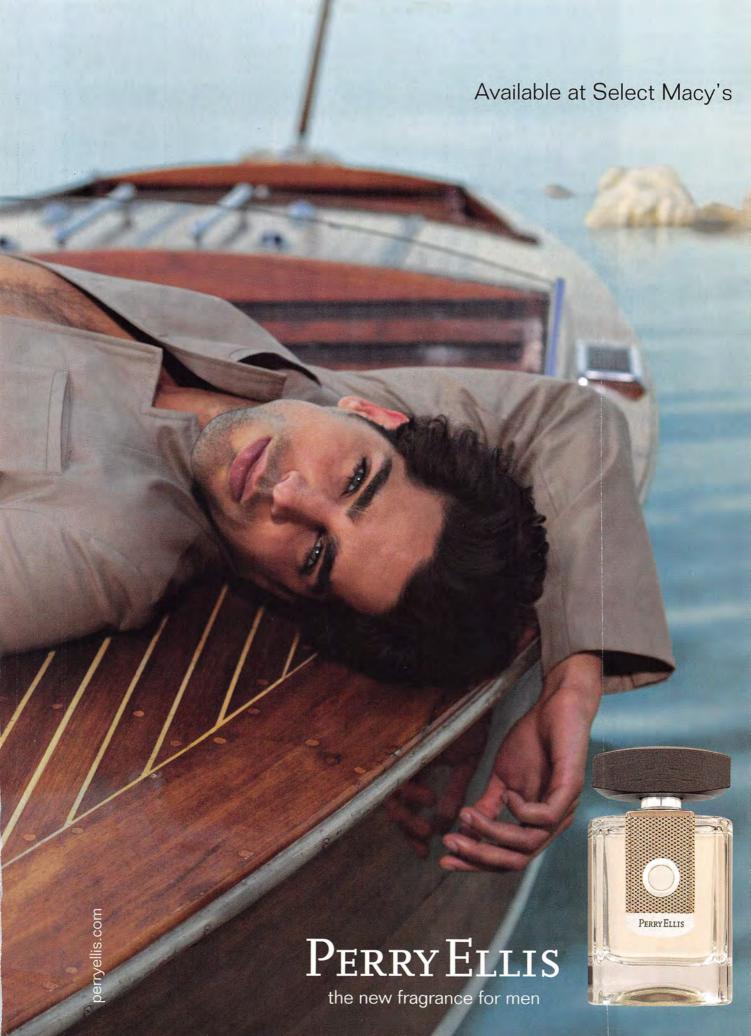
As if splurging on a \$3,000 laptop weren't decadent enough, bling-my-thing.com offers "Golden Age," a MacBook Air covered in 12,000 gold-coated Swarovski crystals. Ah, douchebaggery comes at a cost. Specifically, \$39,750.

#### The Heretics

First he "revamped" The Amityville Horror and The Texas Chainsaw Massacre. Now Michael Bay is reimagining Rosemary's Baby. Hey, America, get a Netflix subscription, watch the originals, and help put an end to this madness!

#### The Traitors

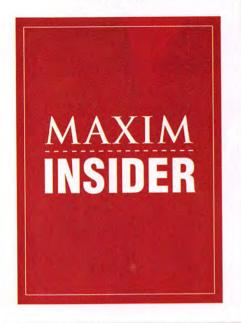
We tolerated his role on *The L Word* (for obvious reasons), but Snoop Dogg's attempt to tap the desired white, stay-at-home-mom demographic with his recent two-day "extended cameo" on *One Life to Live* was bullshizzle.



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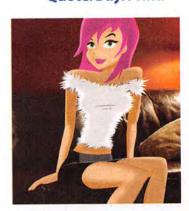


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Put your knowledge of one of the NBA's weirdest seasons to the test!



- 1) The NBA season kicked off with the most anticipated draft in history. Which rookie-tobe wore this amazing seersucker suit?
- a. Spencer Hawes
- b. Joakim Noah
- c. Marco Belinelli
- d. Al Horford
- 2 Put these humiliating moments from the Knicks' sexual harassment trial in chronological order.
- a. After a game of H.O.R.S.E., Isiah Thomas tells
- Anucha Browne Sanders, "I'm in love with you." b. Thomas tries to kiss Browne Sanders.
- c. Thomas encourages the Knicks City Dancers to flirt with the refs.
- d. Browne Sanders is awarded \$11.6 million for being wrongly fired.
- (3) Match the star player to his gnarly injury.
- a. Andrew Bynum
- b. Yao Ming
- c. Gilbert Arenas
- d. Elton Brand
- 1. Hurt Achilles tendon
- 2. Stress fracture in foot 3. Torn meniscus in knee
- 4. Dislocated kneecap



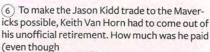
- (4) The Heat and Hawks squared off in a game on December 19, 2007. On what day did the
- game officially end? a. December 20
- b. December 25
- c. January 1
- d. March 8





5) The next time you're on YouTube, you need to search the phrase "Rasheed Wallace Jingle Bells."

False



he never played a minute of basketball)?

- a. \$3.1 million
- b. \$3.5 million
- c. \$3.9 million
- d. \$4.3 million



- 7 Clippers center Chris Kaman attributes his career-best season to learning how to regulate his what?
- a. Brain waves
- b. Sweating
- c. Heartbeat
- d. His bladder
- 8 According to the Warriors' Stephen Jackson, why did he get a tattoo of praying hands holding a gun on his chest?
- a. To show that organized religion has its roots in violence.
- b. He prays he never has to use his gun again.
- c. He was very, very drunk.
- (9) The Wizards' DeShawn Stevenson and the Bulls' Drew Gooden have been in a beard-growing contest. Who's losing?
- a. Stevenson
- b. Gooden
- c. Any NBA fan who's had to look at these monstrosities





NEMERS

#7 IN A SERIES

#### **Bacon Porn**

The maple-bacon lollipop.

How many licks does it take to get to the middle of this swinish sucker? We're not sure, as we've never been able to resist chomping it within a few seconds to find out. Say the makers of this porky pop: "The salty chunks of bacon make a delicious and unique counterpoint to the subtle sweetness of the maple," and damn if they're not telling the truth. Think we're messing with you? Order bacon pops from lollyphile.com (\$24 for 12) and tell us your taste buds aren't aroused.





Number of calories a 170 pound man burns while having sex for an hour. Hump that belly off!





Tat's Crazy!

In their new bad-tattoo book, No Regrets, authors Aviva Yael and P.M. Chen bravely compile the most egregious ink bombs ever etched on flesh. A few of our faves:



#### **BUGS OF WAR**

Japanesebugfights.com brings the pain to your desktop.

ver fantasized about watching exotic insects fight to the death inside tiny glass arenas? Then prepare for a one-way trip to Happy Town! Japanesebugfights. com brings the uniquely Asian obsession with bug battling online, where spectators can watch deadly duels between centipedes, praying mantises, rhinoceros beetles, scorpions, bees, and everyone's favorite biblical badass, the locust. "No one can beat the locust," says the site's founder and operator, Kyle

Benzle. "He's a deadly and unmerciful killer." Now based in Ohio, Benzle caught the bugfighting bug while living in Japan. He says Japanesebugfights.com has nearly 600,000 hits since he launched it in 2004, and now he's trying to turn the squirmy site into a TV show. As for why the insects seem so eager to attack each other once unleashed, experts say the critters are simply responding to innate survival instincts. "It's eat or be eaten," says Michigan State University entomologist Rich Merritt. Hey, better them than us!-Riki Markowitz





'Look me in my fake alien eyes when I'm talking to you in Klingon! TaHqeq!'



#### TRENDSTOPPING

#### **Green Issues**

Forget global warming. We're in a panic over the growing number of "green" issues the magazine industry is producing. Printed on murdered trees, the mags strive to help drought-stricken regions by boring everyone to tears. But it's the covers that get our sea-gull-strangling six-pack rings in a bunch. The New Republic has a woman with a tender, postcoital monkey (sorry, we like our monkey sex rough), and Vanity Fair has a picture of Madonna. Doesn't noise pollution fall under their environmental concerns?

#### Manny's digital world is buzzing.

#### Facebook® on the Go

Manny's favorite way to reconnect with old friends is Facebook. With AT&T, he can check his Facebook profile while he's on the move right from his phone.

#### Take it live

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#### Make MySpace™ mobile

There are over 100 million people on MySpace. Manny wants to know more of them, so he's got to make sure his space stays current. Luckily, with his AT&T phone, he can check messages, post comments, and update his blog.

#### A pic is worth 1,000 words

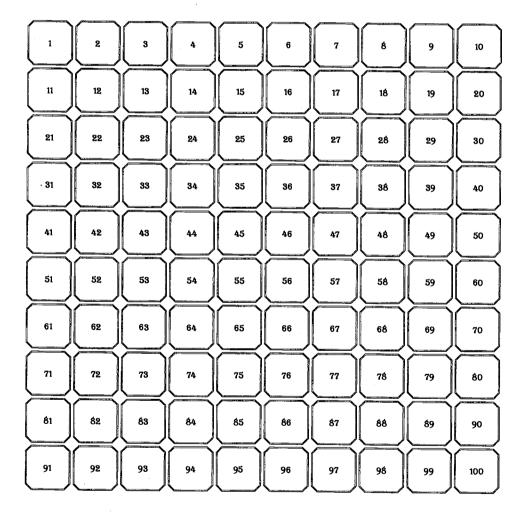
If Manny really wants people to know what's up in his world right now, words just won't do it. That's why he uploads pix to Facebook and MySpace, directly from his AT&T phone. A lot.

This is Manny's digital world.

You've never met him but now you know what he's all about.

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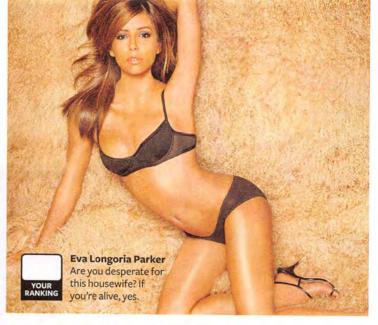
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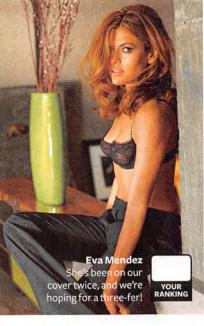




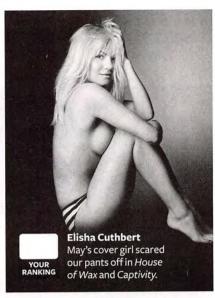




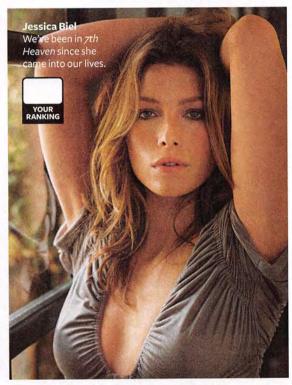












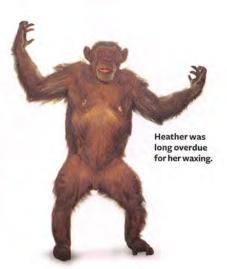




#### **ASK MAXIM**

Superrich tourist traps, toxic dumps, and the future of human evolution? We hope your brain is hungry, because we're serving up a smarts sandwich!





#### WHY IS DUBAI BUILDING ALL THAT CRAZY CRAP IN THE DESERT? Diego Garcia, Terre Haute, IN

Dubai's vast wealth comes mostly from oil, but since their reserves could run dry in a few decades, they have spent billions transforming Dubai into a glittering tourist trap brimming with five-star resorts, man-made islands, and mind-blowing skyscrapers. And it's paying off big time—tourism currently accounts for about 30 percent of Dubai's

growing GDP and is expected to rake in \$115 billion a year by 2015. But Durham University Dubai expert Christopher Davidson cautions that "a regional conflict or domestic terror attacks" could cripple Dubai's thriving tourism business, meaning those sheikhs might have to start pumping the gas they produce to pay the bills.





#### ARE HUMANS STILL EVOLVING? Paul DeMartino, Babylon, NY

"There's a lot of debate about whether or not humans are still changing," says Don Prothero, a geobiology expert at the California Institute of Technology, "Fossils show almost no changes since Homo sapiens appeared about 100,000 years ago" (though he notes that "superficial characteristics" like skin color have changed a great deal). But at least now any further evolution won't be driven by prehistoric predators. "When we were all small hunter-gatherer clans living in constant fear of carnivores, our weakest members-especially those who were very young, very old, or had handicaps or bad eyesightwould have probably been picked off," Prothero says. As for male nipples and other useless accessories, whales had hind legs for 40 million years after they stopped crawling out of the ocean, so your beloved chesticles are here to stay, Paul!







#### WHAT'S THE MOST TOXIC PLACE IN THE UNITED STATES?

#### Nick Peterson, Akron, OH

New Jersey may be known as the Garden State, but it's as renowned for toxic waste dumps as it is for delicious summer tomatoes. Dirty Jerz has 115 toxic or "Superfund" sites (the most of any state) on the National Priorities List designated by the Environmental Protection Agency. "The NPL is a list of sites known to have contaminated ground water, soil contamination, vapor intrusion, or other problems that require longterm remediation," says Beth Totman, a spokeswoman for the EPA. The state's nastiest locales are Middlesex and Burlington counties, with 14 and 13 sites, respectively. If you're looking to avoid contracting unexplained illnesses and/ or growing extra limbs, we suggest moving to North Dakota, where the amount of fun and the number of Superfund sites is the same: none.



#### I'VE GOT REALLY HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. AND I'M ONLY 24. WHAT CAN I DO TO LOWER IT BESIDES TAKING OLD MAN PILLS?

Daniel Eng, Wolcott, NY

While you could adopt a healthier lifestyle-lose weight, cut back on booze, stop eating table salt with a soup ladle—"the best you could hope for is a mild drop in blood pressure," notes Dr. Franz Messerli, director of the Hypertension Program at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York. He says that since the biggest factor is genetics, the only long-term solution is gobbling blood pressure pills. But that's actually good news! "Modern therapy for high blood pressure has little, if any, side effects," the good doctor says. And to think past generations of bloodpressure meds caused depression, nightmares, and penises that didn't work. Having a nonworking penis doesn't do much for lowering blood pressure, Daniel. Now go get pill-popping!



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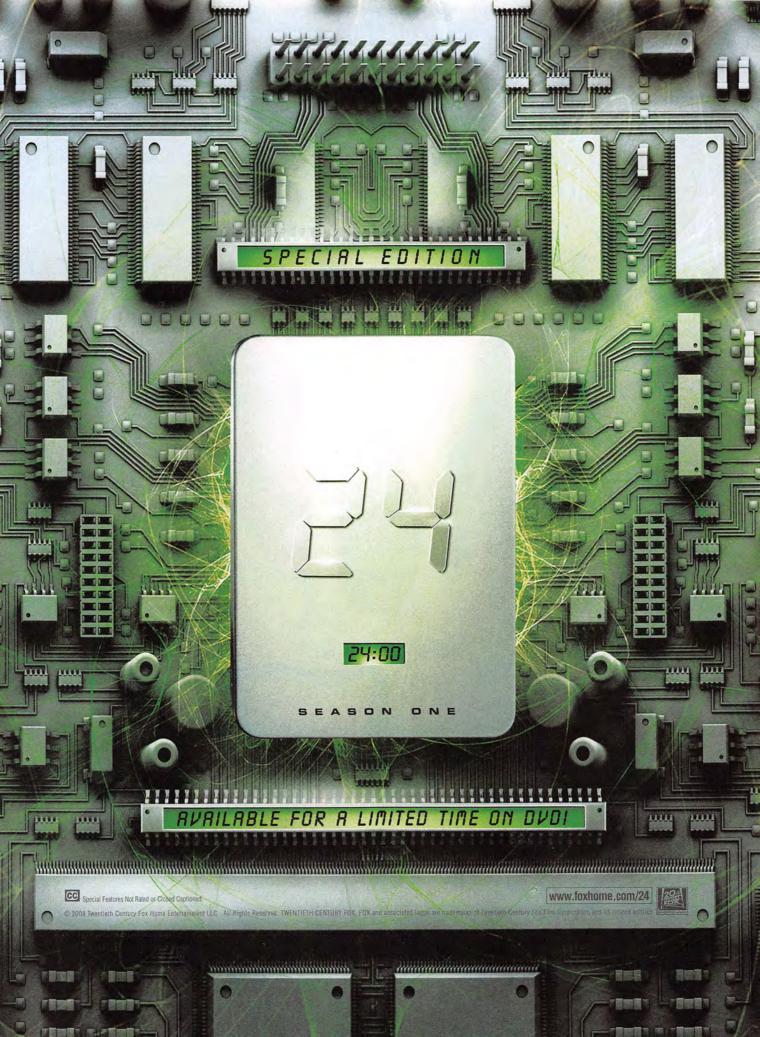
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PAGE





#### **GOING GREEN...AGAIN**

A classic hero gets one more chance to smash through the big screen.

he Hulk is getting another shot at stardom just five years after Ang Lee's overly cerebral yet laughably cartoonish take on the superhero that left fans and critics alike totally cold. Why? First of all, you tell a 1,400-pound behemoth that his development deal lapsed. But mostly, studio execs figure there's still some green left in the franchise.

Enter new star Edward Norton to portray Bruce Banner, and fresh director Louis Leterrier, known to action fans for his Transporter movies. Just 11 days after he was hired, Leterrier was sent to Comic-Con to face legions of superhero obsessives. They had one request: "Please don't fuck this up," Leterrier says.

The plot of The Incredible Hulk harks back to the 1970s TV series. Banner is in hiding, desperate to cure his condition before the army-or his archenemy, the Abominationtracks him down. "An action movie needs a ticking clock," Leterrier says, "and in this case Banner must learn to control himself before the army slices him into pieces to make radioactive soldiers." Toss in flashbacks to the gamma-bomb screwup that started this mess and Liv Tyler as a love interest and we're off to a flying start.

To capture the essence of a surreal monster in a real world (and to avoid the CGI overload that doomed Lee's version), Leterrier studied timeless monster movies like Frankenstein and King Kong. He promises that his Hulk, though again computer-generated, is less cartoonish. "I never approached this as a superhero movie, but as a real adventure," he says. "Frankly, our movie is the opposite of Lee's."

As the Hulk takes one more mulligan, we can only hope that's true.-Mike Olson

#### Take Two

Reviving a franchise: hits and misses.



Batman Begins (2005) After Joel Schumacher treated the bat franchise like a gay-pride parade in 1997's Batman & Robin, Christopher Nolan took over. Now we're lining up



Planet of the Apes

By 1973 sci-fi's most daring concept had devolved into a low-budget fourth installment. Who better to start it over than freaky visionary Tim Burton, right? Wrong.



#### The Lord of the Rings (2001)

Naysayers snickered at New Line for bankrolling Middleearth after the animated 1978 version flopped. A slew of Oscars and \$3 billion later, they got the last laugh.



#### **HAIRBRAINED**

You Don't Mess With the Zohan shows Adam Sandler's tough side.

he concept lies somewhere between The Waterboy and Munich: Adam Sandler is an Israeli commando who goes AWOL to become a New York City hairdresser. "The premise was completely Adam's idea," swears cowriter Robert Smigel. If you can't place Smigel, picture him with his hand up a dog's butt-the longtime SNL contributor is best known as the human behind Triumph the Insult Comic Dog. Zohan is his first feature film, which he wrote with Sandler and another upstart talent, Judd Apatow. Job one: Make sure Sandler's character differs from the neurotic Woody Allen stereotype.

"He wanted to get away from Jews being nebbishy and afraid of women," Smigel says. Hence, Zohan leaping off rooftops and blowing up stuff. Of course, milking laughs out of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict brings its own set of challenges. "It's a very complicated issue," explains Smigel. "We're just trying to show people coexisting in America." Lucky Sandler gets to coexist with Entourage beauty Emmanuelle Chriqui, who plays his Palestinian love interest. The film also gives several Arab-American actors a chance to expand their repertoires. "In most movies they're cast as terrorists," says Smigel, "and here they were like, 'Oh, thank God, I'm playing a cabdriver!"-Michael Shear

#### Do the Twist

Can't wait for M. Night Shyamalan's next surprise ending? Pick your own.

When The Happening hits theaters, you might be riveted by Mark Wahlberg's struggle to survive a mysterious, humanity-threatening crisis. Or you'll spend the whole movie trying to predict Shyamalan's trademark shock ending. Here are five guesses for the completely-out-of-nowhere twist.

- 1. It was all Bob Newhart's dream.
- 2. Wahlberg is a replicant.
- 3. Everybody is a frakin' Cylon.
- **4.** Keyser Söze did it...and they just let him walk right out of there!
- 5. Wahlberg—who has been dead the whole time—defeats an alien invasion by dressing up in the spooky outfits the planet elders keep in a barn. Oh, and the whole thing was a nefarious scheme orchestrated by supervillain Samuel L. Jackson. Bastard.





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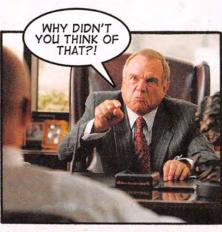
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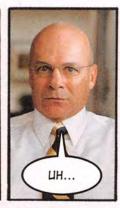


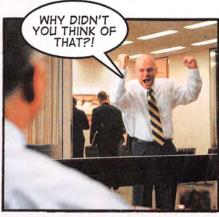
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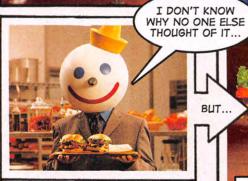












MEANWHILE AT JACK IN THE BOX



A STEAK SANDWICH, A BREAKFAST BURRITO AND BURGERS ALL MADE FROM 100% SIRLOIN, JUST SEEMED LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO DO.







R L O The former model puts some lust into *The L Word*.

he has two models for parents and a fashion-photographer stepdad, so Kate French's early career path was almost preordained. "I modeled in high school," says the New Jersey native, "but I got tired of being judged on looks alone." Lucky for those with premium cable, the genetically blessed 23-year-old jumped to television, scoring a role as hotheaded lesbian actress Niki Stevens on Showtime's sexy Sapphic drama, The LWord.

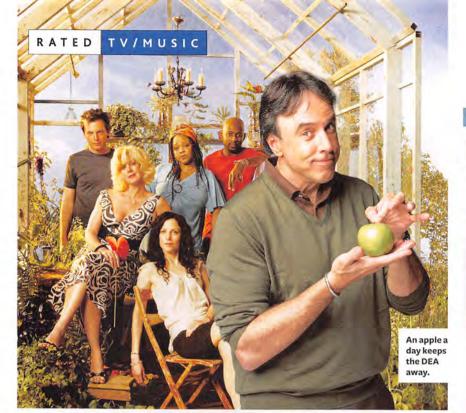
For the record, Kate doesn't bat for the visitor's team, but her natural sexuality made the on-screen switch easy. "Women are much more affectionate and intimate with one another compared to men, so the role wasn't too much of a stretch," she explains. As for the future, Kate has juicy parts in the upcoming films Sutures ("a freaky horror flick") and Fired Up ("a teen comedy like Superbad"), but becoming the next "It girl" isn't high on her list of priorities. "I'm not in this for the fame," she says. "I want to be recognized for the work I do, not for being photographed at a nightclub."—Ben Goldstein

Catch The L Word all summer on Showtime. Fired Up and Sutures hit theaters soon.



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#### **SMOKE SIGNALS**

Five things you don't know about Showtime's high-larious Weeds.

s Weeds' third season ended, Nancy Botwin's (Mary-Louise Parker) career as a pot-dealing soccer mom went up in flames, as wild-fireschased herfamilyout of cannabis-loving suburb Agrestic. What happens in season four? We asked series creator Jenji Kohan, executive producer Roberto Benabib, and star Kevin Nealon for some inside scoop.

#### GOODBYE, AGRESTIC. HELLO, MEXICO!

"This season's theme is change," says Kohan. Adds Benabib, "We're relocating to a beach community near the Mexican border, dealing with immigration and border security."

#### GANJA ISN'T THE SHOW'S ONLY TEMPTATION.

"Doug (Nealon) and Andy (Justin Kirk) meet an illegal Mexican girl and fight over her," Benabib says. The jury's out as to whether she'll be as tempting as Mary-Kate Olsen's herb- and Godloving hippie, Tara, was in season three.

#### NANCY GETS EVEN DEEPER INTO THE GAME.

The new setting pushes our heroine into an even "more dangerous side of the biz." We suspect smuggling, though Benabib won't confirm. "Let's just say Nancy will be drifting into uncharted waters," he says. "It's frightening."

#### THE ACTORS DON'T ACTUALLY TOKE UP...

"During the pilot, I had to smoke tons of weed—actually a honey rose herb," Nealon says. "I couldn't believe I'd probably given myself lung cancer for a silly Showtime pilot that might not get picked up."

#### ...OR MAYBE THEY DO.

"During one scene in season two," Nealon continues, "Justin and I smoked so much honey rose herb we became lightheaded and were barely able to stand. Hmm, maybe it wasn't honey rose herb after all."

Attention, potheads! Weeds sparks up again on Showtime on June 16.

#### **Reviews**

For your aural satisfaction, here's what's dropping this month.

Scarlett Johansson • Anywhere I Lay
My Head • Atco/Rhino



Scarlett Johansson, movie goddess, interprets Tom Waits, crackpot genius: a dubious proposition defied by this minor miracle of a covers album. Johansson's stately voice echoes Waits' forlorn distance, while producer Dave Sitek, TV on the Radio's studio wizard, constructs epic new haunted houses for Waits' ghosts ("I Don't Want to Grow Up" is perfectly recast as a sleek synth jam).—Nick Catucci

.....

#### My Morning Jacket • Evil Urges • ATO



Their sound has never been easy to categorize, and the boys from Kentucky still refuse to be pigeonholed. While earlier efforts drifted into psychedelia, their fifth disc assuredly contrasts mellow Bread-inspired tunes like "Sec Walkin"" with pseudo-electro jams like "Touch Me I'm Going to Scream." Then the Southern rocker "Remnants" explodes like a backwoods meth lab. When it comes to musical mutations, these guys are naturals.-N.C.

#### Jakob Dylan . Seeing Things . Columbia



When Bruce Springsteen hit the scene, he was one in a long line of "new Dylans," albeit the sole one to warrant the comparison. It's with some irony, then, that on his first solo outing, Jakob Dylan does his best Springsteen routine. And that's not a bad thing. Produced by hirsute mastermind Rick Rubin, these 10 acoustic numbers recall Nebraskaera Bruce, highlighting the younger Dylan's gritty vocals and impressionistic wordplay.-David Swanson

#### **Music Math**

Ice Cube · Raw Footage · Lench Mob Records



Ice Cube is an original gangsta indeed, having cut a path from violence-laden thug life to mediocre family comedies. On *Raw Footage*, his ninth solo effort, Cube asserts his iconoclastic cred. "Gangsta Rap Made Me Do It" spotlights the intriguing balance, effectively savaging rap's critics and pooh-poohing school shootings—over decent beats. Don't call him Bill Cosby just yet.—*N.C.* 

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HOW TO ENTER: To enter, with http://www.maxim.com and go to the contests page to reach the official entry from. Then fill in your name, home address, e-mail address, daytime telephone numbe, and date of birth and the 14-850b yours on Norma address, e-mail address, daytime telephone numbe, and date of birth and the 14-850b yours on Norma address, daytime telephone numbe, and date of birth and the 14-850b yours on Norma programed. Succeptables will not normal to the control of the control address of the control of the control address will be accepted Deplicate entries will be advergeded. In the event of conflict amongst persons claiming to be the fortrant, pite will be awarded to the rowner of the e-mail address. Use of automated entry devices or programs is prohibited. Any attempts to access the site via a bot script or other brute-force attack will result in that it? address becoming intelligible for the mein sweepstakes. Sweepstakes Endities (defined below) are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate entry information, human error, technical multirection, fallures, omission, interruption, deletion, or defect of any telephone network, computer online systems, computer equipment, servers, access provides, or software, including any injury of damage to participants or any other persons' computers relating to or resulting from participation in this Sweepstakes; inability to access the entry webster or any pages thereof; theft, tampering, destruction, or unauthorized access to, or alteration of entires, entry submissions that are processed date or incorrectly or are incomplete, garbide, or issid due to computer or electron maillurction or traffic congestion on the Internet or any website. Proof of entering information at website is not considered proof of delivery ineligible.

WINMER SELECTIONS: One (1) Crand Prite Winner will be selected in a random drawing of all eligible enters received, on a about July 17, 2008. These selection of the winning entries shall be within the sole discretion of the Sweepstake HOW TO ENTER: To enter, visit <a href="http://www.maxim.com">http://www.maxim.com</a> and go to the contests page to reach the official entry form. Then fill in your name, home address, e-mail address, daytime telephone number, and date of birth and hit the SEND button. No Purchase Required. Sweepstakes will run

to be bound by these Urricus Huses and the decisions of the Sweepstakes Entities, which shall be final, binding and conductive on all matters. Cand Prize Winner and guest must be available to travel on any dates selected within the sole and absolute discretion of the Sweepstakes Entities pursuant to the odays' advance notice.

PRIZES/MALUES: Crand Prize (1): Grand Prize Winner will receive a 2009 Ponitac Vibe CT automobile with options to be determined by Sweepstakes Entities, and including the manufactures' standard warranty (any upgrades or options that are not an the verticle as delivered are the sole responsibility and at the sole expense of Winner), and including a custom automobile paint job (by an artist to be selected within the sole and absolute discretion of Sweepstakes Entities), and a three-day/two-night type Grand Prize Winner and one (1) guest to los Angeles for the prize presentation (date to be determined). Prize presentation trip includes roundrips coach artiac epitien to be selected within the sole and absolute discretion of Sweepstakes Entitles). How the prize presentation (date to be determined). Prize presentation trip includes roundrips coach artiac epitien to be selected within the sole and absolute discretion of Sweepstakes Entitles). How the prize presentation of the term of the sole and absolute discretion of Sweepstakes Entitles) from the U.S. gateway airport closest to the Winners Short and the sole and absolute discretion of Sweepstakes Entities, in the event that the Grand Prize Winner presens not to receive the custom automobile paint job. MSRP of the Portica Vibe CT 5 S.22.110. Approximate total relat value of the Carad Prize Winner will be entitled to neceive \$15.000 in cash in lieu of the custom automobile paint job. MSRP of the Portica Vibe CT 5 S.22.110. Approximate total level value of Carad Prize Winner will be disqualified, and will not incide a it transportation or land transfers in the hereign and transportation or land transfers in the hereign area, the Carad Prize Winn

NOTIFICATION/TERMS. Winner vall template entries.

NOTIFICATION/TERMS with the most property of the property of the Notification of the Notificati NOTIFICATION/TERMS: Winner will be notified by electronic mail and/or regular mail. Winner's name may also be posted at http://www.maxim.com and/or in MAXIM

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WiNNESS LIST: For the names of the winners, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The Pontiac "Your Vible" Sweepstakes, c/o Dennis Digital, Inc., 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 12° Floor, New York, NY 10018 by September 30, 2008, devember and Washington residents and residents of any other states where this requirement is proscribed by law may omit stamp.) Sweepstakes Sponsors and Administrators: The Sweepstakes Sponsors and Administrators of the Americas, New York, NY 10018 and Dennis Digital, Inc., 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10018.



#### **HEAVY METAL**

After years of development, the Metal Gear Solid franchise comes to a killer conclusion as Solid Snake makes his final stand.

series that began 20 years ago finally wraps up the plot twists, nonsensical sequels, and icky incest references with Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots. And if all that went right over your head, don't fret. "We know players new to the Metal Gear series might be intimidated by its rich history and huge cast of characters," says creator Hideo Kojima, "so we added features to make sure players who aren't Metal Gear experts can still follow the story."

That story, in a nutshell, is that an aged Solid Snake-the Special Ops agent/mercenary who is the star of the series-is still pursuing his archnemesis, Liquid Ocelot, years after the events of 2001's Metal Gear 2: Sons of Liberty. But instead of just fighting in a jungle or arctic base, Snake must battle mercenary armies from the Middle East to South America. Aiding him are a slew of new gadgets: the OctoCamo, which mimics Snake's surroundings; the Metal Gear Mk. II, the minature version of a nuclear-armed walking tank; and the Solid Eye, which displays info about the environment and nearby enemies.

The biggest twist? "Snake must battle the Beauty and Beast Corp, a unit of four females who grew up victims of war," says Kojima. And of course, a series known for its extremely tricky battles won't make these ladies easy to beat. "You fight all four," he explains, "and it's not as simple as shooting them until their health gauge goes down." Though death by hottie squad isn't a bad way to go, and Kojima swears this is the saga's final chapter, don't assume you know Snake's fate. "This is Metal Gear," he says, "so we'll keep the player guessing till the very end." -Jesse Brukman





Left: Villainous Vamp demonstrates the benefits of Pilates. Above: AARP member Snake takes careful aim.

#### **Fitness Made Digital**

Can Wii Fit pump you up? Workout guru Tony Little help us find out.



After revolutionizing home gaming by letting players work up nonvirtual sweat with the Wii, Nintendo again ups the video-game-as-workout ante. Enter Wii Fit, a balance board with sensors that read your position and replicate your movements on-screen. But can it really turn doughy thumb-twiddlers into iron men? We called on our favorite ponytail-er, fitness infomercial king-to weigh in. Let's hope it doesn't get his spandex tied up in a knot.

#### WHERE'S THE BEEF?

The Fit's strength-training program includes slow-motion squats, lunges, and push-ups that will test your inner Rampage Jackson. And if that's not enough, push-up and jackknife challenges will have you begging for a nice, sedentary game of *Tetris*. **Tony's take:** "Yeah, this will add strength. Slow push-ups *really* work muscle groups."



#### **CARDIO ARREST**

If looking like the Hulk's pasty cousin isn't your thing, check out the Fit's aerobics plan: step classes, rhythm boxing, and hula hoop (you read that correctly). The Fit will even track your reductions in weight and BMI. **Tony's take:** "This could get boring quick. Hell, they should knock off my personality and just make me into an animation!"



#### STRIKE A POSE

Promising 15 authentic yoga positions, the Fit replicates your half-moons, cobra poses, and sun salutations with gurulike precision. If you can't tell a downward dog from doggy doo, an on-screen instructor demonstrates each pose as the routine begins.

**Tony's take:** "Yoga's not my gig. It's good for your mind, but not your butt!"



#### Game On

We preview some more of the month's most hotly anticipated titles.



#### Sid Meier's Civilization Revolution

Xbox 360 • PS3 • Nintendo DS

The big news is that the greatest strategy game ever made—on a console for the first time—actually works without a mouse and keyboard. Play 16 unique civilizations in your single-player attempt to conquer the world, or take your schemes online against up to four other wannabe masters of the universe.



#### Alone in the Dark

Atari • Xbox 360 • PS3 • PS2 • Wii • PC

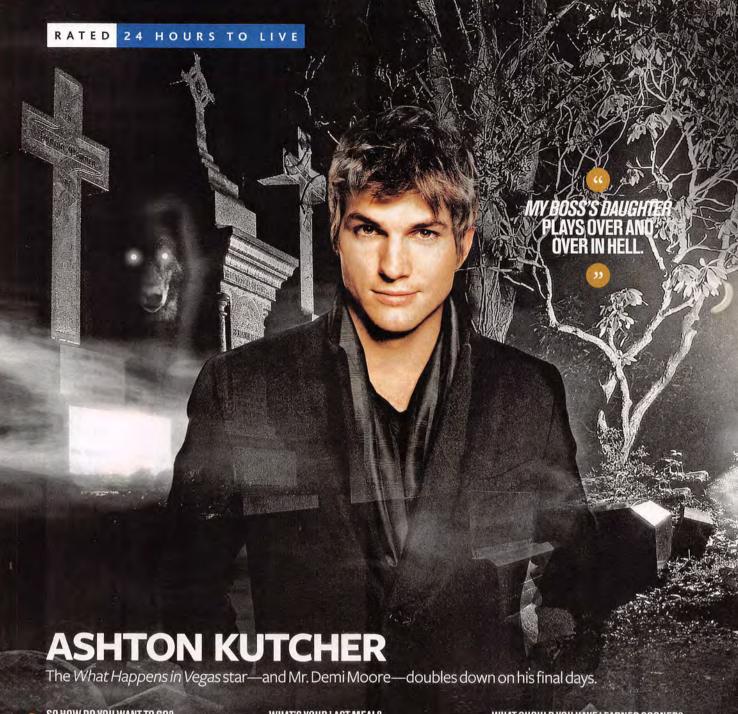
The series that created the survival horror genre is back. This time, besides a typical arsenal, you also have improvised weapons like brooms and table legs to help you battle evil in a faithfully re-created Central Park. Sound lame? Dark's "fire engine" aims to create the best flames ever seen in a video game, so light 'em up and flambé your foes.



The Bourne Conspiracy Xbox 360 • PS3

Thankfully not tied to a movie release (a gaming kiss of death), Conspiracy lets you shoot, drive, and perform hand-to-hand combat with the same cinematic—albeit less handsome—flair of Matt Damon's Bourne. For even more Hollywood authenticity, screenwriter Tony Gilroy (Identity, Supremacy, Ultimatum) consulted on the story.—J.B.





SO HOW DO YOU WANT TO GO? Having a mind-blowing orgasm:

DO YOU HAVE ANY DEATHBED CONFESSIONS? Hopefully, I'll have already confessed everything before I get to that point.

WHICH OF YOUR MOVIES PLAYS IN HELL? My Boss's Daughter.

YOUR LATEST MOVIE IS WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS. WHAT'S THE WILDEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE IN SIN CITY?

One night I sang "The Humpty Dance" onstage with Digital Underground with a sea of porn stars dancing beneath me at the Adult Video News awards.

WHAT WAS YOUR BIGGEST WEAKNESS? The inability to say no.

WHAT'S YOUR LAST MEAL?

Gimme a beer.

WHAT'S ONE THING YOU'RE GLAD YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO DO AGAIN?

Get circumcised.

WHO WILL PLAY YOU IN YOUR BIOPIC?

Me, because by then they'll be able to computerize me like they did with John Wayne in that beer commercial.

IF YOU COULD COME BACK AND SPY ON SOME-ONE WHO'S STILL ALIVE, WHO WOULD IT BE? I'd just want to watch Demi.

BESIDES THE PLOT OF *Ghost,* what's the greatest lésson you've ever learned?

It's not how much you love when you love, it's how much you love when you hate.

WHAT SHOULD YOU HAVE LEARNED SOONER?

Once we're done, it starts all over again.

IF YOU COULD COME BACK AS SOMETHING ELSE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A fish. They don't have eyelids, you know?

TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOUR FANS NEVER KNEW.

I always sleep on the west side of the bed.

DESCRIBE YOUR FUNERAL.

Ireally wouldn't want it to be a big deal.

WRITE YOUR EPITAPH.

"Move a little to the left—you're standing on my liver." ●

What Happens In Vegas, which costars Cameron Diaz, is now playing everywhere.

# IF YOUR SINGLES EVER HELPED PAY AYOUNG WOMAN'S TUITION,

YOU'REA MITCHUM MAN

THE ULTIMATE IN POWERFUL PROTECTION AGAINST WETNESS AND ODOR.

Mitchum smart solid NEXT

MONTHS

MONTHS

MONTHS

The future of pop culture, filed and sorted for your anticipatory pleasure.

#### Spore

Science nerds, unite! Sims designer Will Wright has given us an even geekier way to play God on the computer. With a user-generated landscape, you can play as everything from a single-cell amoeba to a complex, space-traveling creature.



U2 album

When not saving the world, Bono and Co. have been crafting a follow-up album to 2004's surprisingly relevant How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb. Says producer Daniel Lanois, "We're going to try to deliver a masterpiece." Bring it on!



Watchmen

It's 1985, and a band of superheroes must uncover a Cold War conspiracy in this film adaptation of Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons' iconic comic book, directed by 300's Zack Snyder. Whoa, fanboys! It's too early to get in line now.



#### Ace of Base album

Mamma mia! Much like that other Swedish pop band, the group behind "The Sign" never seems to completely fade away. This time they claim to be developing a "harder, more electro style." Please, make it stop.



#### Last-Minute Holiday Shopping

Must-haves like the latest iGizmo, coupled with highly caffeinated soccer moms, are going to make holiday shopping season more miserable than ever. See you on Cyber Monday.



#### **Ghost Brothers of Darkland County**

What's that? John Mellencamp and Stephen King are working on a musical together? "It won't be 'Jack and Diane' meets Cujo," promises Mellencamp. Too bad-that sounds kind of awesome.



#### The Onion Movie

The favorite parody newspaper of hipsters everywhere is leaping off the page. But the news isn't exactly fresh, since a lot of the satirical newscasts in this straight-to-DVD release were filmed in 2003. Peel with care.



#### Family Guy Spin-off

Fox producers are pursuing a Family Guy spin-off starring Peter Griffin pal Cleveland Brown. But even with Family Guy scribe Seth MacFarlane at the helm, can a deli owner match wits with the Griffins' billion-dollar franchise?



#### The Lovely Bones

Alice Sebold's novel about a family searching for their daughter's killer is now in the hands of director Peter Jackson. Though he showed his dark side with Heavenly Creatures, this could turn into a long episode of Touched by an Angel.





#### DESIGN "BUILD "KEEP"

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5 WILL PARTY HARD AT STURGIS. 1 WILL BUILD HIS BIKE AT VOODOO CHOPPERS.

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#### WITH MATERIAL GOODS

#### **LAMBO OF GOD**

The brand-new Lamborghini Gallardo LP560-4 has some big, pointy Italian shoes to fill. Luckily, it's as insanely fast as it looks.

How are the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever? Get this-by the suits at Lamborghini upgrading their most successful vehicle ever at the suits at Lamborghini upgrading the suits at Lamborghini ureplacing the Gallardo with an even better one! Since it debuted in 2003, more than 7,100 rich $guy\,drive ways\,have\,been\,torn\,up\,by\,their\, ``entry-level''\,ride\, (that's\,actually\,a\,huge\,number\,for\,the$ firm's hand-built standards). Five years is long in supercaryears, so a call for change brings us the  $LP_{5}60\text{-}4, an enhanced Gallardo\,that\,pinches\,high-tech components\,and\,sleek\,design language\,from\,$  $Lambo's \, most \, exclusive \, models. A \, new \, engine \, supplies \, 560 \, hp, hence \, the \, moniker, while \, severely \, and \, constant \, and \, constant \,$ angled front and back ends push the car, and onlookers' jaws, to the ground.—Ky Henderson



What, no cupholders?



#### Power Broker

Good looks alone won't get you anywhere—well, if you're a car—so underneath the breathtaking exterior is a beautiful aluminumalloy power plant. The so-called mid-rear engine, situated just in front of the rear axle, is a high-tech 5.2-liter V-10 that produces 40 more horsepower than that of old Gallardos. Can you believe people drove those jalopies?

#### On the Handle

Lambo techs claim aerodynamic efficiency has been increased by 31 percent. Let the eggheads tally the score, but one look at the car confirms an aggressive stance, an ass-lift characterized by a redesigned diffuser, and a smooth underbody. Permanent four-wheel drive and near-perfect weight distribution make it stickier than the *Details* men's room floor.

Lights, Action

The new Gallardo goes almost fast enough to travel through time. So it's fitting that underneath its Bi-Xenon headlamps there are new LED running lights with diodes positioned in a Y shape, mimicking a flux capacitor. (Rear taillights also feature the same design.) Simply tapping the brakes in the Shoney's parking lot makes it clear you're better than everyone else.





Last year's \$1.4 million, all-carbon-fiber, only-20-produced Lambo Reventón looked like James Bond's ride of choice—in the year 2050. So it's no surprise the LP560-4's front end also boasts two massive forward-facing air intakes that cool the beleaguered engine, along with a low-slung spoiler and in-your-face fasciae. The result? If other drivers see you coming, they'll just pull over to get the humiliation done with.

Going Greenish

To call the LP560-4 a gas-sipper is...well, a complete lie. But the car is 44 pounds lighter than its predecessor, has better fuel economy—up to 17 mpg from 14—and boasts an 18 percent reduction in carbon emissions. Lambo's vowed to cut emissions on all its vehicles by 40 percent by...uh, some point in the future. Whatever. Even Ma Nature would drive one if she could.



#### SPEC CHECK

Lamborghini Gallardo LP560-4

 Price:
 \$198,000

 Engine:
 5.2-liter V-10

 Torque:
 398 lb.-ft. @ 6,500 rpm

 Horsepower:
 560

 o-62 mph:
 3.7 seconds

 Top speed:
 202 mph



#### **IN-TENTS WORKOUT**

Which three-season, two-person tent makes the perfect pitch this summer?



AIR FORCE

Nemo Morpho AR, \$395

nemoequipment.com

Lowdown: Go camping futurestyle under this tent's acid-green canopy: Its design scraps poles for inflatable structural beams. Blow it up to get the tent erect! Speed: Raising the neon beast took six minutes and 62 foot pumps—the slowest in our test. Comfort: Our two tall testers found the 40 sq. ft. of floor space ample enough to Indian leg wrestle. Nothin' weird about that. Waterworks: We doubted the single-wall setup would survive the car wash. Surprise! Even though it's the only tent on our list without a rain fly, our man stayed bone-dry. Verdict: It is the coolest-looking tent in our test and can take a beating, but it's pricey and packs big.



OPEN AIR

REI Quarter Dome T2, \$259 rei.com

Lowdown: A mostly mesh design makes this a choice tent for stargazers and exhibitionists.

Speed: Despite our man-made maelstrom and the tent's funky asymmetrical structure, colorcoded poles and tent seams helped our tester get this set up quicker than Marion Barry. Time: 3:30. Comfort: Our testers dug the breezy canopy and "straight-up side walls," which provided enough room for two very large heads. Waterworks: We had doubts, but the tent's rain fly, "bathtub" bottom, and raised door zippers kept

our testers moisture-free. Verdict: Like a mesh BUSCH GARDENS cutoff T-shirt, you can see through it, but it's tough as hell.

RATING ...



THE WEIGHT WATCHER Copper Spur UL2, \$400

bigagnes.com

Lowdown: The lightest tent in our test gets sciency on our ass: Anodized aluminum poles and thin nylon keep weight under four poundsso you can haul more Lunchables! Speed: We had the hubbed setup standing in 4:30, thanks to instructions sewn into the bag. Genius! Comfort: Though it has 30 feet of floor space, testers felt "too snug." Their favorite feature? Double side doors that make bailing easy. Waterworks: The "Bible-page thin" walls kept our tester untouched after a car wash dousing. He brazenly asked to remain inside while we ran out for lunch. Verdict: A super-tech, ultralight tent disguised in hearing-aid beige. Only for the hardcore.

RATING .



Waterworks: Will it leak when we put it on a pickup truck's bed and

send it through a car wash?

THE THROWBACK

touching thighs?

Eureka! Timberline 2, \$120

eurekatent.com

Lowdown: Remember that A-frame tent you pitched as a pizza-faced Boy Scout? Eureka! still makes it. And you still have zits. Speed: Our tester freaked after finding no instructions inside the box, but he had this ageless wonder flapping in the wind in five minutes, thanks to its simple design. Comfort: Testers praised the 38 sq.ft. of floor but bitched about the "awkward head space" and lack of side windows. Spoiled brats.

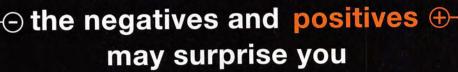
Waterworks: Fail! Our subject left the car wash with wet corduroys and a bruised ego. Water entered through an ill-mounted zipper right at the floor crease.

Verdict: Retro is cool—unless it's raining in the present.

RATING ...

RATING .

#### When it comes to powering your digital camera





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Use them up and throw them away

**Buy two more** 

Use them up and throw them away

Buy two more

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Buy two more

Use them up and throw them away

Buy two more

Use them up



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Beijing Calling

Using the computer program Skype to make nearly free phone calls to friends all over the world is cool, especially when you're "working from home" and billing the boss. Doing it with a weird earpiece clamped to your head? Not cool. Enter the Skype-ified Desktop Internet Phone, which will at least lend a professional air to your Net booty calls. \$100, belkin.com

Mini-Me PC

At one third the size of a typical desktop computer, the Vista-powered HP Pavilion Slimlines3300t brings dual-core performance to your desk without hogging your whole damn work surface. A Blu-ray drive is an essential option worth taking if you're already resigned to the fact that you never get work done at home anyway. from \$600, hp.com

Desk Set

Buy a classy desk and suddenly penning a \$65 check to the phone company gains a sense of gravitas. Our pick: those hand-built by Scrapile, a Brooklyn furniture firm that crafts crisp mod designs from wood-shop remnants. Kick your feet up and think about how ecoconscious your desk is as you finish that story for Sealclubber Monthly. to order, scrapile.com

Clear Screen

Stock up on Windex before scoring the ultimate design monitor—you'll soon be wiping smooch marks (or worse) off the Dell Crystal's tempered glass body, which integrates speakers and a two-megapixel Webcam into its form factor. Sure, we wish the 22-inch screen's 1680x1050 resolution was a little higher, but we love her for her looks. \$1,199, dell.com

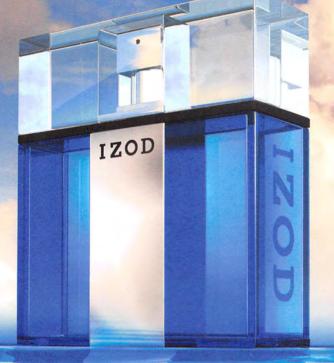
Hot Seat

Face it, most work is just calling people to intimidate them so they'll pay you. Unless you're one of those dudes who rock a stand-up desk, you need a "power throne" to get in the proper mind-set. The imposing Steelcase LeapWork-Lounge will get you to that zone but also keeps you comfortable, since its back, arms, and seat all move independently. \$2,499, steelcase.com

Freedom Speaker

The moon may have gifted Neil Armstrong a lifelong meal ticket, but what has it done for us lately? How about inspiring the look of the Sony Ericsson MBS-100, a funky, rechargeable wireless Bluetooth speaker compatible with a slew of Bluetooth-sporting cell phones. It also hooks up your computer and MP3 player through its 3.5 mm input. \$100, sonyericsson.com

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## IZOD

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SEPHORA

SECRET, AGENT

#### ERIN ESURANCE

**B-Day: February 8** 

Sign: Aquarius

Relationship Status: Who's asking?

Occupation: Insurance agent by day,

secret agent by night

Best Part of the Job(s): Saving the world from evil (and overpriced auto insurance)

Worst Job: Once, I had to go undercover as an anime character. The weird fan mail

drove me nuts!

Turn On: Nature (Esurance saves green for the environment and your wallet.)

Turn Off: Over-priced auto insurance

Favorite Movie: I'm a spy. Anything & everything secret agent-related.

Early Bird or Night Owl: How about both? Esurance is open 24/7.

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#### **WARMUP BAND**

#### Indie kings the Black Keys rock an arsenal of retro riffs—and closets full of old-school warmup gear.

#### We hear you guys are addicted to buying track suits.

Dan Auerbach (guitarist-vocalist, left): We have a huge collection-I'd say we each have 70 of them—cool new throwbacks and vintage finds, too. We still go on tour in a van we drive ourselves, and by the time we get home to Akron, we're always weighed down with a huge bag full of warmup suits and '8os-style rap gear, And gaudy gold chains we find in thrift stores.

#### You never wear warmup suits onstage.

DA: Yeah, the track suits are for backstage. Strictly for our eyes. That's "eyez" with a "z."

#### Do you work out in them?

Pat Carney (drummer): I get up at 5:30 A.M., drive to Starbucks, go to my doctor for some HGH, and hit the mall for some mall walking. In a noisy nylon track suit, so you can hear the legs. Seriously? I wake up at one and, uh, play drums.

#### What got you hooked on warmups?

DA: We love publicity shots from the Run-DMC era; any of those hip-hop groups had way cooler looks than the band photos you see today.

#### Your sound doesn't evoke '80s hip-hop.

DA: When we wear hip-hop gear, we're not

keeping it real at all. No one wears this stuff in Akron, Ohio. It's how we entertain ourselves. You need to create an entire universe for yourself in Akron or you end up working at Arby's.

#### Any tips on scoring a cool track suit?

DA: Yeah. When you're shopping for one, go bold. You want to hunt for a power color, like a really rich purple or a deep green. Green's the color of money and the color of trees. It's organic and greedy all at once.

The Black Keys are touring in support of their LP Attack & Release, out now on Nonesuch.









3

**Newly Divorced Dad** 

While Mom scored custody of your younger siblings and the house, Dad got weekend privileges and an efficiency apartment. Cheer up his dingy second-floor balcony with Weber's portable, no-rust aluminum Smokey Joe Grill in a newly revived avocado green hue. Dinner for one? More like dinner for fun! Not so bad, huh? Stop crying. \$50, crateandbarrel.com

Sir Drinksalot

Your pa once had dreams and aspirations. Then you popped out of your mom and ruined everything. Ease his pain with one of the finest bourbons we've tasted—Pappy Van Winkle's Family Reserve, a spicy and complex spirit aged in oak barrels for 15 years, the same amount of time he's been praying for you to move out of the house. \$47, oldripvanwinkle.com

Cool Daddy-o

(6)

GARMIN

The PT Cruiser puts a chink in his otherwise cool armor. You can't really trade his wheels, so get him some Gauge sunglasses from Kaenon to compensate. These surfer shades rock ultrasharp polarized lenses for optimum sun protection, and the Alain Mikli-designed frames are oversize, so they draw attention from his receding hairline. \$219, kaenon.com

Dad on the Run

Your father is physically fit but directionally challenged. Help him find his way with the Garmin Forerunner 405 running watch, which can report running speed, record routes, and direct him home when he's hopelessly lost in the next subdivision. It's the first GPS watch that won't look like a microwave oven strapped to his arm. \$319, garmin.com





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# Employee Benefits

The modern office fling is sexier, and more complicated, than ever.

ne day a few months back my friend Jen\* dragged me into the ladies' room the second I got to work. "You'll neverguess who I slept with last night," she said. "Mark!" I think I actually gagged. Mark was another coworker, a weasely know-it-all who wore his khakis way too tight. Apparently, after an extended happy hour, Jen ceased to care that he was widely considered the office douche. She was horny and reasonably confident that he at least wasn't quite as scary as the creep who'd been eyeing her from the end of the bar. So she took Mark home-kicking off what I have to imagine was the luckiest night of his life.

Mark's luck isn't about to run out anytime soon, however—so long as he keeps reporting to work, where he's surrounded by single females. According to a 2007 survey by career research company Vault, Inc., 47 percent of coworkers have dipped their pens in each other's inkwells at some point. Office affairs have been around forever, but they've undergone an evo-

lution. It's no longer the age of Mad Men, when upper management was a boys' club, and naive secretaries offered easy romantic foils. Thanks towomen's ascendance in the workplace, longer workdays, and later marriages, today's offices are filled with ambitious young singles (and not so-singles). The workplace has morphed into the modern dating pool, and as a result, several different types of office affairs have emerged—each with its own allures and potential disasters. If you haven't had one yet, chances are you will before you cash in that 401(k).

# The Work Spouse

Work wives and husbands aren't having sexnor are they actually married—but they might as well be. As far as everyone else in the office is concerned, something shady is going on, what with the daily lunches, closed-door "meetings" to share office gossip, and constant e-mails followed by muffled laughter. From nine to five, work spouses are closer to each other than they are with anyone else—even, in certain cases, their actual spouses. "One of my married sisters

has a 'work husband,'" says Melissa, a 39-yearold editor. "She talks about Mike all the time. I've never met the guy, but I know his birthday, his favorite place to vacation...I honestly think my sister would fuck him if there were no consequences. She speaks of him much more excitedly than she does my brother-in-law."

Of course there's considerable benefit to having a work spouse. You have an ally in a stressful environment, someone who understands exactly what bugs you at your job in a way that significant others outside of work can't. "We have a rapport my ex and I never did," says Laila, a 28-year-old medical researcher, of her work husband. "It developed after months of sitting across from each other, griping about the losers we work with. We can communicate with eve contact alone now." But she has no desire to consummate the relationship. "Sex would change things between us," she says. "We work well together because we're so close, and flirting makes work fun. It's perfect as is-I don't want the drama a real affair brings."

# The Overnight Meeting

As easy as it is to fall into bed with a coworker, it's twice as difficult to face them in the morning. Best-case scenario, you both behave like nothing happened—and pass each other in the halls knowing you've gotten away with something. But when one person views the sex as a colossal mistake, it can translate into years of dodging elevators and eating lunch alone.

"Shortly after joining a new ad agency, I went home with a really cute copywriter," says Sophie, 30, also a writer. "We had amazing sex, and the next day I left a Post-it on his computer saying, 'Thanks for a great time.' When we all went out that night, I assumed we'd go home together again. Instead, he showed up with a chick he introduced to me as his girlfriend." Sophie was so angry she spent the next year and a half avoiding him, and their colleagues had to decide which of them to invite out for drinks. "It was horrible. I used to send an intern as a gobetween so I wouldn't have to talk to him."

# The Open Secret

According to Vault, 68 percent of workplace romancers said they tried to keep their affairs secret—probably using such time-honored, subtle tactics as leaving for lunch two minutes after one another each day. If you're in one of these relationships, you're not fooling anyone, 007. Rachel, a 32-year-old illustrator, dated another illustrator at her design firm for two years. "In the mornings we'd split up a block away from the office," she says. "And we leftworkevents separately, even afterwe moved in together. When we finally 'came out' to a

TYLING, ERIN TURON; HAIR, JEANIE SYFU.FORREDKEN/CONTACTINYC, MAKEUP, SHANNON GREY WILLIAMS AT FORD ARTISTS VIX.C. USING SMASHBOX COSMETICS, MANICURE, AMPLIN FORMARK EDWARD, INC, PROPSTYLING, JOEY EDWARDS

few coworkers, they were like, 'Uh, we know.'"

So why bother trying to keep things "secret" if everyone knows anyway? Because hiding a relationship makes it more taboo—which is far sexier than affairs that are out in the open. "As discreet as we were," Rachel says, "if we found ourselves alone in the elevator we'd make out and grope each other's asses. The risk of being caught both terrified and excited me." Bottom line: It's always fun to have a secret at work, especially when that secret is: "I'm boning you."

# The Boss and the Underling

Welcome to the most confusing and potentially dangerous office fling—the reason sexual harassment laws exist and indemnifying company contracts were created. When a boss is screwing a subordinate, everything that happens between them is scrutinized to thenth degree—if the underling gets promoted, it could be seen as favoritism; if they're fired, it could be discrimination. For this reason, wary male bosses are rarely the aggressors anymore.

Still, the Clintonian affair is alive and wellbut more women are now taking the lead. Lily, a 27-year-old TV producer, had a yearlong affair with the head of her network. "He could fire me at any minute, which was, in a twisted way, a total turn-on." Lily says it was her "mission" to bed the boss-which she finally did late one night when she brought him a document to review. "I walked around to his side of the desk and brushed my breasts against his shoulder as Iset it down. He took the hint and pulled me on top of him, pushing up my skirt so we could do it in his chair." Lily says she felt a sense of power knowing she'd seen the big cheese naked. "It was an equalizer, in a way, and gave me a sense of security. I figured he'd never fire me because he'd be scared I'd tell people about his lime green banana hammock.

Female bosses aren't afraid to move on underlings, either. "I screwed one of my interns," confesses Margo, a 31-year-old head recruiter. "Iloved that hewas intimidated by me because it meant I had control in bed, too. He told me I was the best lay of anyone he'd ever been with. Maybe he was just aiming to get hired—but I didn't give a shit."

# The Nuclear Affair

It's the kind of affair late-night cable flicks are made of. The nuclear affair begins with months of palpable sexual tension. Once one person finally—inevitably—makes a move, it's on. You two have sex in the ladies' room. And on your boss' desk. And on the fire escape. "The first time Rob and I hooked up, he went down on me in an emergency stairwell," says Carrie, 28, who works in ad sales. "Afterwe were done, we realized there were security cameras there, but that still wasn't enough to stop us. He once fingered me in the copy room, and we fucked in the service elevator." They even did it on the



office's conference room table. "At our staff meeting the next day, I kept picturing myself having an orgasm right there," Carrie adds, "and relishing the fact that no one had a clue."

The nuclear problem: The fallout is just as dramatic as the explosion, only infinitely messier. Crazy sex turns into blowout fights; coworkers are forced to take sides; one of you is either fired or leaves the job. "Spending 14 hours a day with Rob was too intense," Carrie says. "Our rock bottom was a screaming match outside our office. He called me a 'slut,' and I told him to go fuck himself—as peoplewe worked with walked by, horrified. I found a new job a month later, and we never spoke again." The message: Mind-blowing sex always has a cost. If you don't mind paying for it with your sanity and your career, go for it.

# The Successful Merger

Some office flings turn out not to be flings at all—20 percent of them end in marriage. And

why not? From the second you meet, you two have something in common, and you spend years learning to problem-solve. "I recommend dating people from work," says Danielle, a 32-year-old publicist who married a former boss. "You spend every minute together—at work, at parties. It's a great way to see how someone handles stress and treats others."

In fact, lifetime unions forged in the work-place are so common now, many companies will turn a blind eye to any potential conflicts of interest—so long as the ball-and-chains keep things professional. "One of our head designers ended up marrying a colleague she reports to on a daily basis," says Teal Bragg, human resources director for a New York advertising agency. "But our policy is, as long as it doesn't affect production, we honestly don't care." Until the office divorce, of course, which will have you fighting over the house, the kids, and the corner office where you first consummated your insatiable burning attraction.

# Office Romances Through History

People have been fishing off the company pier for ages, with mixed results.

#### 1. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella

The heirs to Aragon and Castile married in 1469 and jointly ruled a new united power called Spain. When the sex got stale, they masterminded the Spanish Inquisition, which is the kind of shit horny rich kids do for fun.

#### 2. Marie and Pierre Curie

Pervy Pierre came on to Marie Sklodowska in 1894, while she was still his student at the University of Paris. The couple got busy in the lab, discovering radioactivity and winning the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903.

#### 3. Fleetwood Mac

Songstress Stevie Nicks left guitarist Lindsey Buckingham for drummer Mick Fleetwood, while singer Christine McVie cheated on bassist hubby John with—the band's lighting guy? Hear the details on their 1977 smash album, Rumours!

#### 4. NASA Astronauts

In early 2007, spacewalker Will Oefelein dumped fellow astronaut Lisa Nowak for another woman. Big mistake. Nowak donned a diaper, grabbed a knife, and drove 950 miles, allegedly to kidnap the new girlfriend. Awkward!











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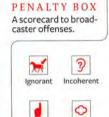




# The 10 Worst Broadcasters in Sports

Sportscasters have gone from trusted experts to pompous, blathering idiots. We put the biggest offenders on notice.

efore cable TV ushered in an era of 24-hour sports coverage and snarky, personality-driven commentary, professional play callers were endowed with a unique talent for actually enhancing the experience of watching a game. They offered valuable insight, knew how to play up a big moment, and knew when to shut the hell up. Think Hall of Famer Mel Allen calling World Series homers-"Going, going, gone!"-or Keith Jackson punctuating college football's biggest rivalries with his deep twang. Over the past two decades, however, too many play-by-play guys-even some of the biggest names-have become motormouthed hacks whose egos are perpetually on display. They pepper their commentary with a constant flow of inane banter and irrelevant pop culture references—anything to get more air time. It's enough to make any fan watch a whole game on mute. In the name of taking back televised sports, we hereby call out these 10 broadcasters as the worst of the worst—and beg TV execs to muzzle them before viewers revolt.



Grating voice Catch-phrase-happy

Blowhard



He's as much a part of American football as pylons and jock itch, but Madden became a parody of himself long ago. The beloved Hall of Fame coach once lent easy-to-understand insight to a game that can be hard for the casual fan to decipher. But that was before he handed out six-legged turkeys on Thanksgiving and scored a slew of endorsement deals. Sadly, he's all but stopped analyzing these days, instead bellowing catch phrases while scribbling on the Telestrator like an epileptic kindergartner. Then again, if our name was on a video game that has grossed over a billion dollars, maybe we'd start phoning it in, too.

He said it: "Not only do you get a first down but you get a whole new set of downs!"



Yes, the Knicks' MSG Network color man is a legendary guard and a pretty smooth dude. We've got a few tips for him anyway: Tone down the pimp wear; criticize your sorry-ass team every once in a while; and, please, put down the thesaurus. Word combos like "bounding and astounding," and "precocious neophyte" are enough to make any man hurl a whiskey bottle at his flat-screen. (Or is that just us?) Most ridiculous of all, the Knicks can be losing by 50 to the Hornets, and Frazier will, without irony, praise the low-post defense of David Lee.

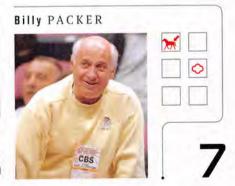
He said it: "A maestro is Nate Robinson, his virtuosity overwhelming the Blazers now. The grandeur, the splendor, the majesty of the little man, slicing between a couple of Blazers."



A forgettable play-by-play man for ESPN's College Football Primetime, Patrick earns his place here largely thanks to his work during the September 22, 2007 Georgia-Alabama game. With the two rivals engaged in a fierce overtime battle, Patrick started badgering analyst Todd Blackledge with questions about...Britney Spears. Nationwide bewilderment ensued.

He said it: Patrick: "I've got an important questions about..."

He saidit: Patrick: "I've got an important question." Blackledge: "Go ahead." Patrick: "What's Britney doing with her life?" Blackledge: "Who?" Patrick: "Britney." Blackledge: "Britney who?" Patrick: "Spears. What's she doing with her career?" Blackledge: "Why do we care at this point? Is she here?" She wasn't. But that didn't stop Patrick from baring his weird soul.



The Dick Cheney of college basketball broadcasting, Packer is a crotchety antagonist who brings the joy of a diaper change to every gig—along with doses of racism and sexism! Packer called Allen Iverson a "tough monkey," and when a female security guard asked for press credentials before a Duke game, Packer replied, "Since when do we let women control who gets into a men's basketball game?" Karma struck when he blasted the inclusion of so many midmajors in the 2006 NCAA tournament—and then George Mason reached the Final Four.

He said it: When Charlie Rose asked if Packer

He said it: When Charlie Rose asked if Packer wanted help with the 2007 finals: "You always fag out on that one for me. You always say you'll be the runner, then you never show up."



Adynamic center at UCLA in the '70s and a self-professed former hippie, "the Big Redhead" is all about peace, love...and turning even the most boring Bucks-Nets game into an epic battle between good and evil. The undisputed king of hyperbole, Walton once described a misguided pass from Tony Parker as "the worst pass in the history of Western civilization" and called Greg Ostertag "one of the top centers on the planet." Walton deserves credit for overcoming a debilitating stutter, but he still sounds like he's spraying the booth every time he opens his mouth. Terrible! Just terrible! He saidit: "When I look at Boris Diaw, I think of Beethoven and the age of Romantics."





One assumes the NFL Network wanted Gumbel because the newsman added gravitas to a fledgling outlet. Gravitas, however, only matters if you don't suck. Though adept as the host of HBO's Real Sports, Gumbel was out of his element as a play caller. He routinely misdiagnosed plays, spotted the ball at the wrong yard line, and once referred to the game's quarters as "periods." He called Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo "Rick Romo" and 49ers running back Frank Gore "Al Gore." Mercifully, the network and Gumbel parted ways last April so he could return to Teleprompter reading.

**He said it:** "The Patriots...come back on the field for the first time this evening."

Dick VITALE





Once upon a time, Dickie V was an exciting, spontaneous announcer. Now he's a mugging cartoon whose catch phrases—"dipsy-doo dunkaroo," "slam-jam-bam, baby!"—send fans scrambling for a dull razor. Vitale's obsession with Duke and Coach K borders on a disorder, and his tireless defense of even the most unethical college coaches is laughable. Last year when Florida coach Billy Donovan accepted the Orlando Magic job, then quit a day later, Vitale noted, "Those things happen." He'd make a helluva used car salesman, though.

He said it: "Go to my Web site, Dick Vitale dot com! You can get my bobblehead and my books and also an alarm clock to wake you up!"



# 

ESPN's lead baseball color commentator relishes any chance to remind non—Hall of Fame second basemen that he, Joe Morgan, Hall of Fame second baseman, is a Hall of Fame second baseman. He's also the most condescending broadcaster in sports—so despised he's inspired a Web site: firejoemorgan.com. When not making Barry Bonds out to be Mother Teresa, he's bashing execs who use stats rather than scouts to evaluate players—the science of sabermetrics detailed in the 2003 book Moneyball.

He said it: "Anytime you're trying to make statistics tell you who's gonna win the game, that's a bunch of geeks trying to play video games." News flash: Those geeks are your audience.

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# Chip CARAY

He's the grandson of legendary Cubs broadcaster Harry Caray and the son of TBS's Braves play-by-play guy, Skip Caray. So Chip may have benefited from a little nepotism when, two years out of college, he scored a job behind the mike at Orlando Magic games. Today the MLB announcer is a fountain of inaccuracies. During last year's ALDS, he was actually forced to apologize to Cleveland Indians fans for botching so many facts about their team.

He said it: Of the Andy Pettitte, Fausto Carmona duel in the 2007 ALDS: "You can't get better postseason pitching than we've seen tonight." Oh, yeah? How about Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series, Chip?

# WORST OF THE WORST

# Chris BERMAN



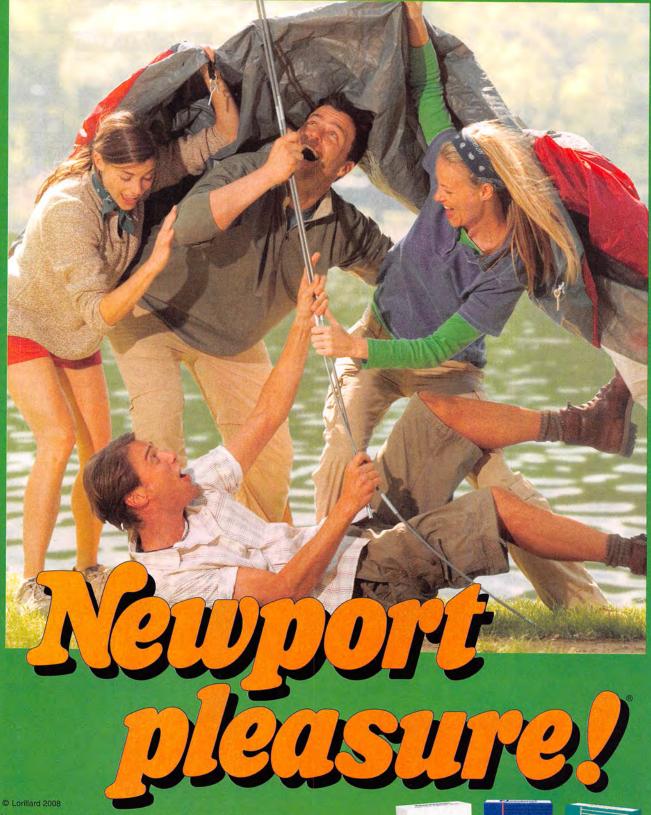




One of ESPN's original broadcasters, Berman is the godfather of taking a spectacular athletic moment and butchering it with bullshit. Whether he's creating "wacky" nicknames for players—Mike "Enough" Aldretti, Esteban "Bats in the" Beltre—or bellowing, "Back-backback-back!" whenever someone hits a home run, Boomer never fails to shoehorn his trademark nonsense into a game.

He said it: Caught on-camera in 2000 just before Monday Night Football returned from commercial: "Why does everybody all of a sudden have to move? You've got two fucking hours to move around. Wait 10 minutes. Jesus!...It's like no one has worked on TV here before! Jesus!"





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These days the American dollar is barely worth the paper it's printed on. But what if you could trade your wimpy greenbacks for other currencies—and make a fortune in the process?

ack in July 2005, Erik Herzfeld had a hunch. The currency trader, 32 years old at the time, was well aware that China had been inundating the American marketplace with increasing amounts of toys, computer equipment, and clothing for years. Since this was long before people realized Chinese goods were constructed largely from arsenic-soaked lead, Americans were buying the hell out of the low-priced products, supercharging China's economy with billions in U.S. capital and making its currency, the renminbi, increasingly valuable. So, if Herzfeld could swap his ever-weakening American

cash for Chinese currency before it soared in value-and then trade it back-he could make a fortune overnight.

There was just one problem. For two decades, the Chinese government had prevented the value of the renminbi from moving at all. Logic told Herzfeld that buying the currency would be a waste of time and money. But he was a good trader, so he did his homework.

Via the Bloomberg message system, an online service that allows users to tracke-communications between financial institutions, Herzfeld noticed increased activity by the People's Bank of China and the Chinese State Administration of Foreign Exchange. "They started

working very late," he says. "I knew something was brewing." Herzfeld leveraged big, essentially taking out a high-risk loan, and used \$80,000 to speculate on \$200 million in renminbi. Six days later Beijing announced that the Chinese had let the renminbirise to its true market value-2.2 percent higher than when Herzfeld bought it. In other words, his \$80,000 investment had just netted him \$5 million.

"You don't need to go to a fancy school to trade currencies," he explains. "No one is right 90 percent of the time. But you can make money-alot of it-if you're right 60 percent of the time."

#### The Iron Is Hot

Since the first opening bell of 2008, the stock market has been plagued by darkening economic forecasts. Combine that with the fact that the dollar is in the toilet-last year alone, the greenback's value fell an average of 10 percent compared to other world currencies—and it's easy to see why skittish investors are bringing their business to the currency market. Right now, more and more amateurs are exchanging weak U.S. dollars for cash with more muscle.

While currency trading used to be the sole domain of big banks and credit institutions, over the past few years retail brokerage houses have set up shops for any would-be trader with an Internet connection and a healthy checking account. It's the Wild West of investing—all online trades are anonymous, and the market is open for business 24/7. The result is a market that's exploding with activity. In 2003, Foreign Exchange (FOREX) brokers held \$170 million in customer funds; by 2007, that figure had grown to more than \$1 billion. And since 2000, the number of individual traders registered with one major online currency trading firm, FXCM. com, has ballooned from 100 to 100,000.

But it's far from a sure thing. "I learned about it three years ago from a client," says George Bacardi, a 39-year-old CPA who earns about \$85,000 a year trading currency on the side. "I gave it a shot, lost all my money, and was still hooked. My best day, I've made \$7,000; on my worst, I probably lost as much as 10 grand."

# Mastering the Market

There are two ways to make money. The first is just like Herzfeld's China play: You buy a currency you think will increase in value, then sell it back when it's worth more than the U.S. dollars that you bought it with. But you can also earn a fortune by betting a currency will tank. Financier George Soros speculated back in 1992 that the British pound was about to take a plunge, and banked \$1.1 billion in one day's time when he turned out to be right.

Of course, there's a catch. These markets move violently, and if the currency you sold goes up instead of down, you pay the difference. To avoid disaster, you must be a financial news junkie. Read *The Economist*, check international newspaper headlines online, and sign up for a currency trading newsletter. "An FX trader doesn't sleep," says Robert Paulson, 35, founder of currency trading firm First Lenox. "You may rest your eyes, but you don't sleep."

Lee Martin, 45-year-old owner of a countertop installation company in Georgia, has been trading for 10 years and admits the lifestyle can be hectic. "London gets going at 2 A.M., so I'll get up at 1 or 2 and see what's happening. Then I'll take a catnap and check again at 4. The Far East is active from about 7 P.M. to midnight, so you want to pay attention then. From 12 to 1:30 you can take a break." But there is a payoff to the sleepless nights. Martin earns about \$30,000 a year on top of his regular income.

What sort of information should you be looking for? Omens that an economy is getting worse—widespread unemployment, evil dictators, disasters; all can drag a currency's value down. Positive economic indicators—optimistic consumers, robust spending, low inflation—indicate a currency will go up.

"Prices form classical patterns," says Marc Prosser, chief marketing officer at FXCM. "Things that are rising continue rising, and things that are falling continue falling." Sites like Prosser's—Forex.com, FXStreet.com, and HotspotFX.com are three others—provide users with performance charts of dozens of currencies. They'll show a currency's "support level," the price at which it stops falling and begins to rise; and its "resistance level," the ceiling at which it will stop rising. Also take note of oscillators, which measure the speed of a trend. "You want to buy



# I LOST ALL MY MONEY AND WAS STILL HOOKED. IN ONE DAY, I'VE MADE \$7,000.



when the momentum is strong and in your favor," Prosser explains. "When the trend gets slower, it's losing steam."

# Make Your Move

You'll need to know three prices before placing your order. First, the price at which you'll sell. Look at the charts. How high or low will the price move? Will any economic indicators be released to interrupt the pattern? Watch closely, and remember history. "See how prices reacted to news in the past," Herzfeld suggests. "Then use that information to predict the future. A good trader has a great memory."

Second, enteryour buy order. You don't have to pay the market price; instead, instruct the site or brokeryou're using to execute the trade at whatever price level you like. Will the price go lower? Check the charts. If it seems temporarily inflated, put your order in at the price where you think it'll settle.

Finally, protect your downside with a "Stop Loss." If the currency moves in the wrong direction, make sure the order system automatically dumps the trade when you're down somewhere between two percent and five percent. Planning properly for all three variables should give you the sense of security you need in order to brave such a volatile market. "Hard-code your game plan and wait for it to happen," Herzfeld says. "Don't say, 'Oh, my God! I just talked

to my friend, and maybe I'm wrong.' Just sit back and say, 'I'm right.'"

# The Big Money

Most amateur traders agree that a ton of cash isn't required to join the game. "You don't have to have big five- and six-figure accounts," says Martin. "You'll make more money if you do, but you can get into this thing for \$1,000." If you have more money to play with, however, and you feel confident enough to take on massive risk in order to hunt huge gains, there is one more weapon at your disposal: leverage. By borrowing from a broker, you can control \$100 worth of currency for every \$1 you actually have. It's the tactic that allowed Herzfeld to gamble with \$80,000-and rake in \$5 million in profits. With the help of leveraging, any bozo can immediately become a player. And players can just as easily be ruined.

Almost any expert will telly out hat leveraging yourself 100-to-one is financial suicide. Think about it: At that ratio, if you speculate with \$10,000 and max out, you're suddenly trading with \$1 million. But if the currency price moves down just one percent—prices fluctuate like that continuously—your broker will immediately take what you owe from your account. In other words, you could be dead within hours. "You want to make sure you can recover from a reasonable string of bad trades," Prosser says. "Leveraging 20-to-one is more than enough."

Remember that leveraging is borrowing—and that means paying interest. If neither currency moves at all, you could be out those payments. So be smart. "There are no rules in this game," Herzfeld says. "You can get kicked in the nuts, punched, horse-collared—and no one is there to call a foul. The big boys come to play. And lots of them win big."

# **Bad Bets** From sports to taxes to terrorism, disastrous financial speculation has played a big part in history.



#### Smoot-Hawley Tariff

The risk: Willis Hawley and Reed Smoot were punk-ass bitch legislators who wanted to safeguard American business from meddlesome foreign competition. So in 1930 they passed a bill to tax imports at historic levels. The result: During the four years the tariff was in effect, pissed-off European exporters stopped dealing with the U.S. altogether, worldwide trade decreased by around 66 percent, and the country sank even further into the Great Depression.

# Ford Edsel

The risk: In the '50s postwar boom, Ford decided it needed an upscale, midrange vehicle to compete with similar vehicles being produced by GM. The result: There were so many things wrong with the Edsel-awkward styling, shoddy workmanship, terrible market placement-that no one can pinpoint exactly what made it one of the greatest business failures of all time. But it tanked so badly that by 1960 Ford closed the division at a loss, adjusted for inflation, of over \$2 billion.

# CIA Funding of Osama bin Laden

The risk: When the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979, U.S. spooks were nervous about the rival superpower establishing a foothold in the oil-rich Middle East. So we secretly funded and trained mujahedin insurgents to the tune of \$500 million a year. After all, nothing's worse than Commies! The result: The "freedom fighters" we funded were Osama bin Laden and his cronies, who went on to form Al Qaeda and the Taliban and kill thousands of Americans.

# Ryan Leaf

The risk: In 1998, the talent-starved San Diego Chargers could have drafted future Pro Bowlers Charles Woodson, Fred Taylor, or Randy Moss. Instead, they traded two players, two first-round draft picks, and one second-round pick-and forked over a then-rookie record \$11.25 million signing bonus for a franchise OB. The result: They got an injury-plagued, petulant, lazy INT machine who was finished at 26 and is often called the biggest bust in sports history.



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# The Real Iron Chef

How Grant Achatz, the most innovative cook in America, faced his worst nightmare and won.

hat the cancer would attack Grant Achatz's mouth, and his tongue no less, was beyond ironic; it was cruel and seemingly impossible. After all, this is among the most important tongues in the world, belonging to one of the country's elite chefs. Even demographically he is allwrong for the diagnosis—the usual patient is in his early 60s, a prodigious smoker, and a drinker. And here is Achatz-a boyish 34, a fit nonsmoker who uses alcohol strictly in the company of food. Yet there he sat last July as a doctor explained that the pain he felt in his mouth was cancer. It was like TigerWoods losing his arm, Steven Spielberg losing his sight. Except for Achatz it wasn't just his livelihood that was on the line, but his life.

"The fear was that he would die," says Thomas Keller, arguably the most acclaimed chef in America, the Yoda to Achatz's Luke Skywalker. "And what a tragedy that would be—a young man with such talent and desire who has the ability to set an example for his generation on work ethic, integrity, and determination. It would have been a shame to lose all that."

At Alinea, the Chicago restaurant Achatz opened in 2005 and Gournet named the country's best a year later, the wunderkind treats dining as something beyond an exercise in consumption. To Achatz, eating is an event, combining all the senses. As such, he treats classic comfort foods like an alchemist in his lab, reinterpreting caramel corn as a liquid served in a shot glass, manipulating shrimp cocktail with a wine press to present it via plastic atomizer, encasing a peeled grape in peanut brittle and brioche in a strange (but delicious) take on the PB&J. His meals often consist of 25 courses, take hours to complete, and employ custom-built service pieces-an evening of sensory overload that dazzles Alinea's 75 diners each night. But despite all the kitchen pyrotechnics, flavor remains the ultimate goal.

Achatz is, by all accounts, a mad scientist, obsessed with deconstructing ingredients molecule by molecule in a quest for the most pristine flavors—the chemistry equivalent of playing with his food. Accordingly, gourmands categorize (unfairly, he protests) his culinary restlessness as "moleculargastronomy," a discipline that originated in Europe and now includes a coterie of American practitioners who endeavor to use science in the service of their cuisine (see sidebar). Achatz is at the vanguard of this revolution, part Willy

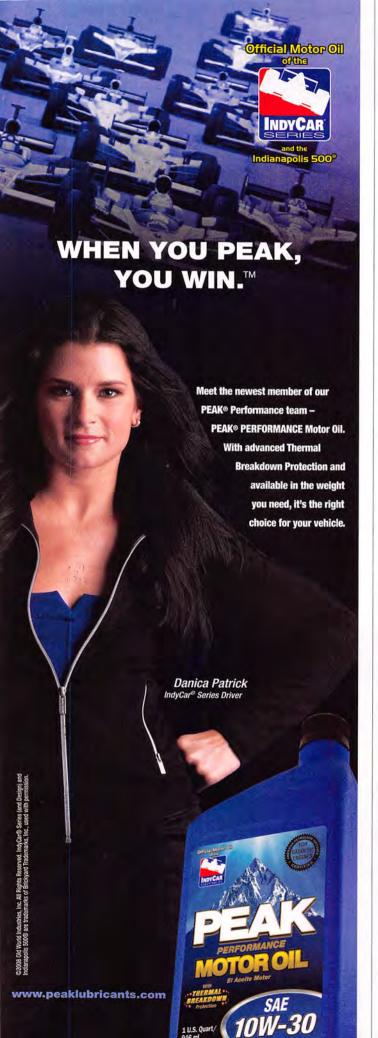
Wonka, part Albert Einstein. Some early headlines about the chef: "My Compliments to the Lab," "A Taste of the Future," and "Chef Darwin."

But the mad scientist isn't mad at all. He's disarmingly simple; when he's not cooking, he tends to favor chain restaurant fare like Potbelly sandwiches, HomeMade Pizza Company, and any other treat replete with salt and starch. In fact, shockingly. Achatz has never dined at his own restaurant. "It's like a comedian laughing at his own jokes," he explains. The décor of his Chicago apartment is unwittingly minimalist; the couple of pieces of furniture include a television (a divorced dad's concession to his two young sons), a table from Alinea, and a bed-a new addition. "I slept on the floor for months," he says. Until recently, he made the trip to Alinea in a 2000 Ford Focus. After all, he grew up in Michigan, with a mullet, the adolescent gofer at his parents' familystyle restaurant ("Polish Night" every Thursday!), where he proved himself a prodigy in traditional dining: pierogies, meatloaf, Western omelets. Says Achatz's father, "At 14 years old, I could leave him with more responsibility than the best chefs or line cooks." The sole parental rebuke resulted from Achatz's eagemess to adom dishes with parsley and orange twist gamishes—a suspicious frill to father and clientele alike. His father's advice: "Don't go into cooking. You won't make any money. Go be an architect."

After attending the Culinary Institute of America, Achatz willed himself a job at Keller's French Laundry in Northern California—sending a résumé every week for months until Keller called him. "His early days here, he was quiet—not shy, but quiet," says Keller. "He was absorbing as much as he could so he could become an even more integral part of the team." Four years later Achatz migrated to Chicago, whereupon Food & Wine named him Best New Chef and the James Beard Foundation named him its Rising Star Chef of the Year. The accolades for Alinea were immediate.

And then, last July, the announcement that he had tongue cancer, a diagnosis that threatened his sense of taste, the ultimate arbiter of his peculiar genius. "Let the comparisons to a deaf Beethoven begin," wrote one blogger. Achatz's response: "Beethoven composed one of his greatest symphonies when he was deaf." But still—his tongue? "The irony is just bizarre," he admits.





Every doctor Achatz saw—all second, third, and fourth opinions—recommended the same treatment: Removal of almost three quarters of his tongue. Only that would save his life. And it needed to happen soon or the pain would become so severe he would be begging them to remove it entirely. To say nothing of how the cancer (stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma) could take his life. Such a surgery would strip everything he ate of taste—food providing only fundamental sustenance. "I kept telling him, 'Your life is about your brain,'" remembers Nick Kokonas, Achatz's business partner. "'They can cut off your tongue. They can cut off a limb. They can cut off your nose. Your genius is your creativity.' It's a logical argument, but your heart isn't in it."

At some point his job seemed secondary. The recommended procedure (a glossectomy) would not only take the Achatz's sense of taste but would seriously impair his speech. A makeshift tongue fashioned from tissue and muscle in the hip or thigh would aid basic function—namely, swallowing. "It was going to change my life in a radical way," Achatz says. "I had to think there was an alternative method of treatment. It seemed so barbaric."

Thankfully, an alternative did exist—nine miles south of Alinea at the University of Chicago Medical Center (opinion number five). Here, they told Achatz, they would give him aggressive chemotherapy. Radiation would follow—sometimes twice a day. The chemo would take his hair. The radiation would burn the inside of his mouth and throat, his tongue peeling as though badly sunburned. His sense of taste would be impaired for many months, and the chance persisted that it would never completely return. But they pledged that if the treatment eliminated the cancer, his tongue could remain.

Achatz began receiving chemo almost immediately. His doctors asked that he rest to better maintain energy and weight, but he ignored them. "It's not that the treatment didn't affect him," says Everett Vokes, Achatz's oncol-

# **The Kitchen Chemists**

Achatz isn't the only chef playing God with your dinner. Meet four other culinary trailblazers.



Adrià
El Bulli, Rosas, Spain
The godfather of
molecular gastronomy
(a term nearly all of

its practitioners abhor), Adria has been pushing the culinary envelope for years. El Bulli, a mecca to foodies and consistently rated among the best restaurants in the world, is only open from April to October, allowing Adria and his team half a year to come up with new delicious, mind-bending concoctions in their Barcelona lab.

Freakiest menu item: Liquid ravioli



Wylie
Dufresne
wd-50, New York, NY
Dufresne single-handedly transformed New
York's Lower East Side

from a bastion of pastrami, bagels, and gefilte fish into a true culinary destination. Since opening wd-50 in 2003, Dufresne has wowed diners with inventive dishes that combine seemingly disparate yet mouth-watering flavors such as trout and root beer, eel and guava, quail and banana.

Freakiest menu item: Popcorn soup

and fried mayonnaise cubes



3 Heston
Blumenthal
The Fat Duck,
Bray, England
Apart from one week
training in a profes-

sional kitchen (most top chefs slave for years in the world's finest restaurants), Blumenthal is entirely self-taught. But that hasn't stopped him from becoming one the boldest chefs in the world. While dishes such as snail porridge may not sound appealing, they've changed the way we think about English cuisine.

Freakiest menu item: Bacon and egg ice cream



Homaro
Cantu
Moto, Chicago, IL
Along with Achatz,
Cantu is fast establishing the Windy City as

the American ground zero of bizarro, forward-looking cuisine. As much an inventor as a chef, Cantu uses lasers, liquid nitrogen, and edible paper printed with squid ink, and is working with NASA to reinvent space food. His kitchen is so top secret it has been dubbed "the Al Qaeda kitchen" by his fellow Chicago chefs.

Freakiest menu item: Prosciutto

cotton candy

ogist. "But you could see that this man loves his job. After a while the worst thing we could do was discourage him from working. That's what kept him going."

Though Achatz's conversation rarely involved his health, the well-wishers persisted. Another of Chicago's culinary icons, Charlie Trotter, told the Chicago Tribune that news of Achatz' diagnosis caused tears in his kitchen. During a visit to New York City's Gramercy Tavern, Achatz's presence inspired its chef (whose father was also once afflicted by tongue cancer) to assemble an

impromptu liquid menu for his guest. "It was nice to see him out and enjoying—as much as possible—the food prepared for him by a chef colleague who had already done that type of food and was sympathetic to the situation," says Keller, a companion that evening. Back home, Achatz declined offers of a night nurse and car service, regularly driving himself to the hospital for treatment, almost always from Alinea, where he would return afterward. "It was nuts," Kokonas says. "I don't know if you do that out of bravery, fear, or comfort."

From the outset, when he was not at the restaurant—a total of 14 servings by Achatz' count, fewer by Kokonas'—he continually assessed the kitchen's mood by spying with his iPhone or laptop. If he detected despair of any sort, he arrived at Alinea's back door to reassure accordingly. In this way, hopefully, he would ensure that nothing changed—most of all, Alinea. As far as Achatz was concerned, if his health was to improve, his restaurant could not slip: "What if I had said during radiation, 'This is too much. I need to focus on healing and treatment. I'm going to take six weeks off,' and during that time, the Chicago Tribune would have rereviewed us and dropped us to three stars?

Watch Lost Thursdays 10/9c abc start here



Achatz's revolutionary dishes at Chicago's Alinea include frozen chestnut purée with maple syrup and sea salt, left, and "candy cap" mushrooms with spun syrup, above.

Today At AMAZON.COM

That would have devastated me. Would it have been more devastating than dying? I don't know. But I felt like it was." He stops: "That's silly, right?"

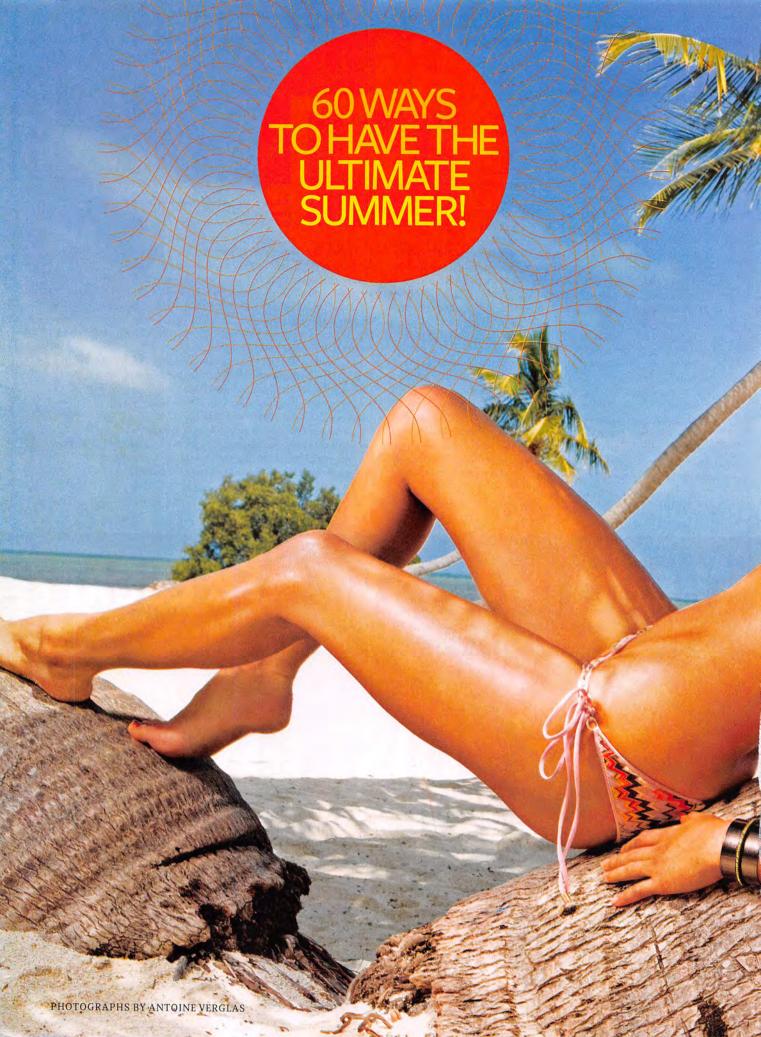
To Achatz's eye at least, the cancer disappeared from his mouth sometime in late fall. Officially, remission arrived in December. He received the news slightly anesthetized, enhancing its dreamlike quality. The result seemed to surprise his doctors, who remain cautious. Their refrain: "It's gone well so far." For the next two years, he will visit them monthly. This kind of vigilance is necessary to quickly identify any recurrence.

At 145 pounds, he remains diminutive. A thicket of hair—darker than before—sits atop his head. His diet is limited to oatmeal, scrambled eggs, and a deli cup of extra soft orzo, his preferred food and drink continuing to prove agonizing. He devised the latest Alinea menu without the benefit of his superior sense of taste. "But it's certainly been coming back," he says assuredly, and in late March he was named one of five 2008 nominees for Outstanding Chef at the James Beard Foundation Awards, the industry's Oscars. In the meantime Achatz proudly relays that everyone he trusts considers the new dishes to be his finest. For now he must take them at their word.



ABC Studios

abc studios





# SEX ON THE BEACH

# SURF'S UP!

Your on-shore drilling primer.

# 1. Invest heavily in terry cloth.

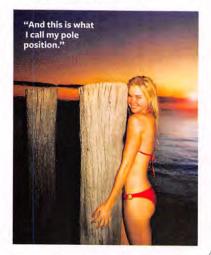
To protect your most delicate of beachgoing parts from chafing, bring a big-ass towel and "keep the sex slow," says Dr. Sadie Allison, CEO of ticklekitty.com. A vagina is no place to build a sand castle.

#### 2. Take a firm stand.

Eliminate the sand trap altogether and do it standing against a rock or pier post. Or sit on a cooler chest with her on your lap, advises Allison. Just keep the lid closed tight or the plums may spoil.

# 3. Have an entrance strategy.

Pushing her bathing suit bottoms aside instead of removing them speeds up the tucking-everything-back-in process, if need be, says Tracey Cox, author of Kama Sutra. Wear a Speedo and two can play at that game!-Caitlin Ascolese





# KISS THE COOK

# BUILD A BETTER BURGER

Ken Callaghan, pitmaster of New York City's Blue Smoke restaurant, brings the heat.

3 oz. ground chuck 3 oz. ground brisket 3 oz. ground sirloin Onion Worcestershire sauce Cheddar cheese Bacon Bun Lettuce, onion Ketchup

- 1. Mix it up: "I evenly mix three ounces each of ground chuck, ground brisket, and ground sirloin into a ball," says our pit boss. "I'll even throw in some finely minced onion or Worcestershire sauce if I'm feeling adventurous."
- 2. It's alive: "I create a hole with my thumb right in the middle and stuff cheddar cheese in the center," says Callaghan. "By the time you get to medium on that burger, the cheese will just start to get melty, which is a nice surprise."
- 3. Make it happen: "Only grill it on a side for three to four minutes to give it a good sear, which will lock in its juices," says Captain Hamburger.
- 4. Be patient: Let it sit for five minutes to allow the juices to reincorporate into the meat. Garnish and engulf!



# THE SUMMER DRINK, 2008

# SCREWHOUND

Wet your beak.

2 oz. vodka

2 oz. grapefruit juice 1 oz. orange juice Lots of ice

A screwdriver is good, but a screwhound is better. Something about the way the grapefruit leavens the syrupy OJ makes us want to guzzle this citrusy wonder until we can't feel the sun scorching our skin-or hear our girlfriend flirting with the bartender.



# VACHT ROCK

NET WORTH HELPFUL HINT

# HOW TO NAME YOUR BOAT

logical. (When in doubt, add a Roman numeral.)

Give your ode to conspicuous consumption the moniker it deserves.

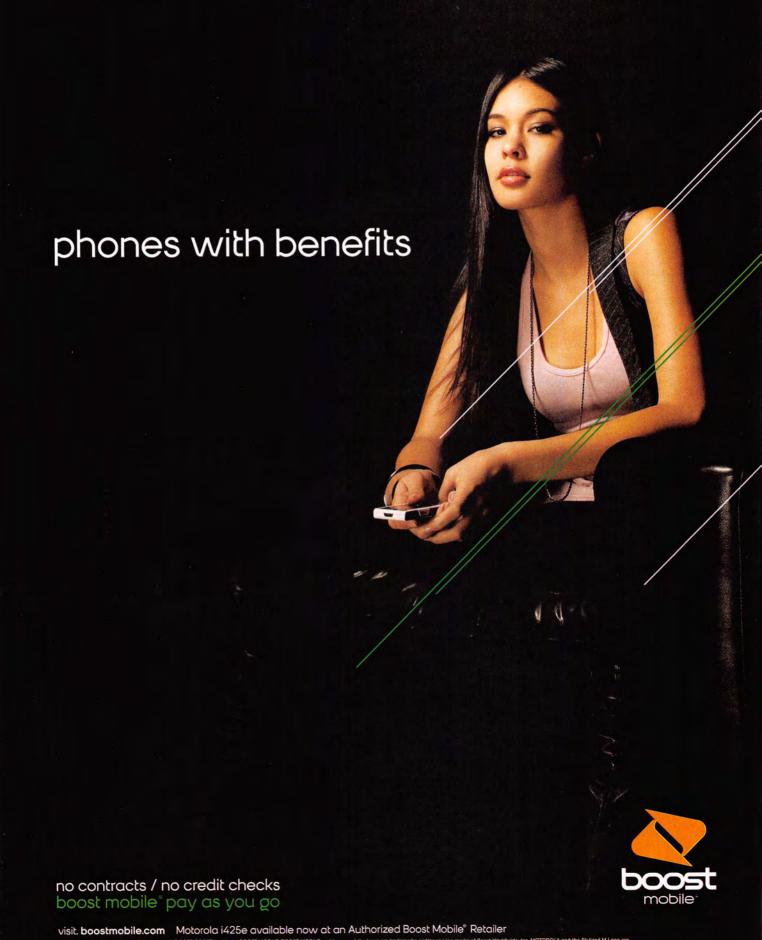


RECOMMENDATIONS

Odyssey IV

Under a million	What you lack in personal fortune, you make up for with a prize-winning pun.	Seas the Day, Golden Buoy, Filthy Oar, Ecsta-Sea
\$1-\$5 million	Stick with the tacky pun theme, but with a reference to your high-powered job in the world of finance.	Sails Call, Knot Working
\$6-\$25 million	With this much bank, turn to irony to rub in the size of your fortune to anyone who happens by.	Petty Cash, Small Change
\$26-\$50 million	Opt for anything that sounds aristocratic or mytho-	Excelsior, King's Ransom,

MUST-SEE OLYMPIC EVENT: RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS + ROAD TRIP ALBUM: YOUTH & YOUNG MANHOOD, KINGS OF LEON >



# ULTIMATE ROAD TRIP SPORTY EDITION

Get weird and sweaty!



# **Grand Sumo Tournament**

(Los Angeles, June 7-8)

Forty pro sumo wrestlers from Japan swing by L.A., primed to introduce American audiences to an ancient sport filled with history, pride, and abused G-strings. sumotour.com

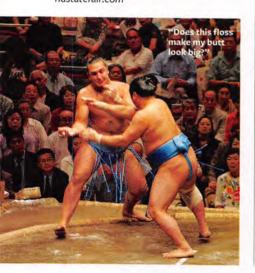
USA Rock Paper Scissors League Championship (Las Vegas, June 22)

Not only will the winner of the USARPS title win 50 grand, he or she will also head to Beijing to take on representatives from Canada, Guam, Hong Kong, Ireland, and Malaysia. Note to self: Feign patriotism. usarps.com

Nathan's International Hot Dog Eating Contest (Coney Island, New York, July 4)

Can anyone top Joey Chestnut's world record of 66 hot dogs and buns in 12 minutes? Who cares? Just pray that you don't have to witness a disgusting "reversal of fortune." nathansfamous.com/nathans/contest

North Dakota State Arm Wrestling Championships (Minot, July 26) Watch men (and women) try to prove they can take Stallone over the top. ndstatefair.com





#### REEL FUN

# **DRIVE-INS LIVE!**

Savvy summer moviegoers get their reels on wheels.

It's a scientific fact that summer movies are 50 percent better viewed at a drive-in. Under the stars, in a cloud of corn-dog aroma, explosions seem explodier, Will Ferrell's flab seems more hilarious, and gaping plot holes shrink to the size of mosquito guts on the windshield.

Plus, drive-ins offer the distinct advantage of freeing you from a leg-amputating seat. Between robot battles and nude scenes, you can mix a cocktail on the trunk and talk big-block motors with the dude parked next to you. Then—back to the action! Another big plus? Double features, so you and your date can

slink into the backseat and watch the second flickwithyour underwear around your ankles. Just try that at the multiplex. On second thought, don't. (Find one near you at drive intheater.com)

# **Best of the Bunch**

## Mission Tiki Drive-In, Montclair, California

The four-screen, 52-year-old mecca for drivein lovers upgraded to IMAX-quality projection. Classic exploitation flicks, rockabilly bands, and dancing girls complete the vibe during the annual Tiki Invasion.



# TRACK MARKS

# SUMMER SONG SCIENCE

Superproducer Tricky ("Umbrella," "High Price") breaks down the perfect jam.

Hypnotic Hook
Exhibit A: "Umbrella," by
Rihanna (2007)
"That stupid, 'ella, ella,
ella' part was the nail in
the coffin."

Instant Recognition Exhibit A: "Crazy," by Gnarls Barkley (2006) "Passes the Dre rule: You got 15 seconds to get your audience."

Built-in Danceability Exhibit A: "Lean Back," by

13%

Terror Squad (2004)
"Songs with instructional moves always have a chance."

Sex Exhibit A: "Don't Cha," by the Pussycat Dolls (2005) "It was so sultry. We

hadn't seen anything that sexy since TLC."

FREAK SHOW: SIDESHOWS BY THE SEASHORE, CONEY ISLAND, NEW YORK + SUPERHOT BIKINI: ROSA CHA + SANDWICH: CLAMWICH >



# ULTIMATE ROAD TRIP FATTY EDITION

Beef up, overeating enthusiasts!



# Big Apple Barbecue Block Party

(New York City, NY June 7-8)

For the sixth year running, the top pit masters in the country gather in Madison Square Park and attempt to make you die in the throes of porky ecstasy. At only \$8 a plate, its crack-tastic! bigapple barbecue.com

## **Vermont Brewers Festival**

(Burlington, Vermont, July 18-19)

Since the Vermont Weed Festival offers items of questionable legality, we can only advise you to head to the shores of Lake Champlain and lawfully harm your brain as the best New England breweries sling their suds. vermontbrewers.com

# **German Fest**

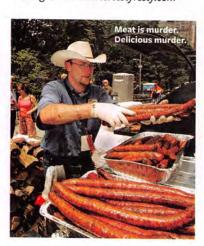
(Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 24-27)

Sure, Germans are a scary lot, but there's no one better to party with-especially when they're providing 20,000 brats, five tons of potato pancakes, and dachshund races. germanfest.com

# **Testicle Festival**

(Clinton, Montana, July 30-August 3)

What could top a festival packed with deep-fried Rocky Mountain oysters and tons o' public nudity? "No Panty Wednesday," where ladies get a free drink for trading in their undies. testyfesty.com



# ULTIMATE PARTY KILLER **LAWN JARTS**

Considered by killjoys to be the world's most dangerous mass-produced children's toy ever, Lawn Jarts (banned in 1988) involved tossing heavily weighted daggers into the air. What could go wrong? Besides all the maiming and killing...





# **WAKE MAKER**

The Yamaha FX SHO cruiser boasts the industry's largest engine, a supercharged 1.8-liter 1,812 cc behemoth that pushes it 0-30 faster than a Corvette. Nanotech engineering saves 45 pounds, so riders can eat that same weight in funnel cakes. \$12,799, yamaha-motor.com

# SUPERBAD APPAREL

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SPEEDO

If you give your banana a hug, remember the trailblazers who paved the way.



The first Speedo is born. Let the plum smuggling begin!



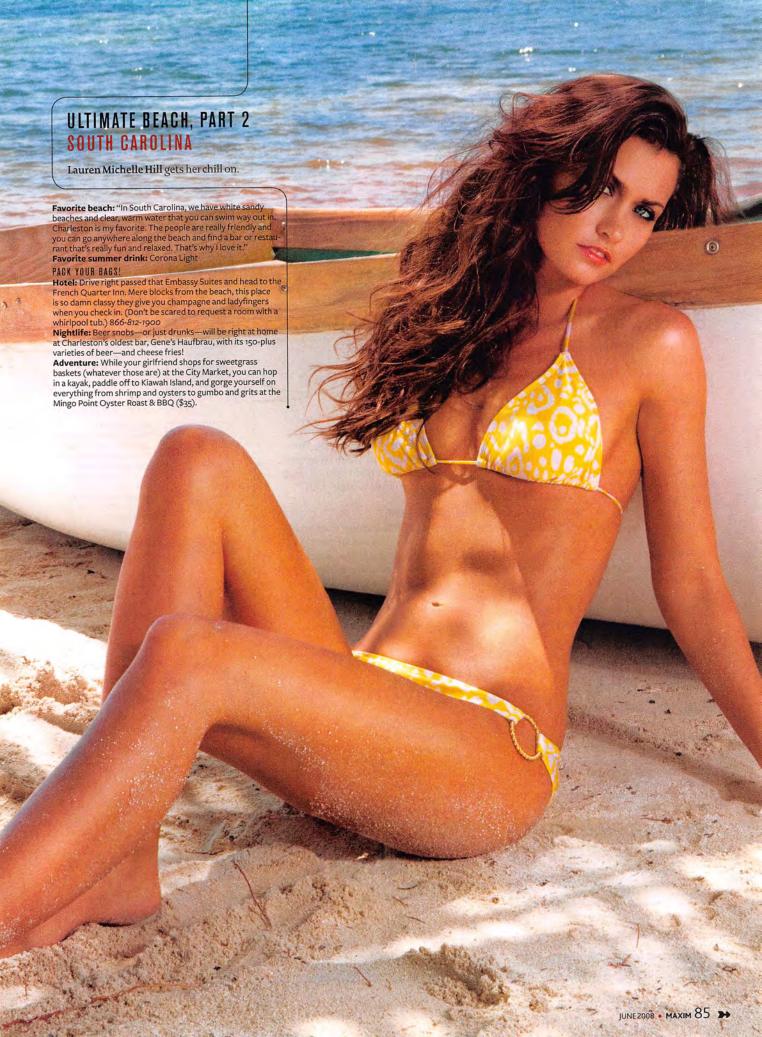
In answer to your question, yes, we do think you're sexy.



"It's not a tumor...It's my third ball."



Barely contains his Hulk-a-mania.





# FESTIVAL FIRST-AID

# **BONNAROO SURVIVAL GUIDE**

From June 12 to 15, Manchester, Tennessee will be the place to see the Raconteurs, Pearl Jam, Metallica, Kanye West, and 100 more acts. As one of its founders, Ashley Capps has been to every second of every Bonnaroo, so use his inside knowledge to maximize your experience.

# 1. Seek out the small stages.

While 80,000 sheep flock to the main stage gigs, you can witness once-in-a-lifetime mashups, like when Led Zeppelin's John Paul Jones sat in with Ben Harper and ?uestlove last year. "Some incredible talent has performed on the smaller stages, so check out Troo Music Café, Solar Stage, and Sonic Stage," says Capps. "You might even catch an acoustic set from acts that usually play the bigger venues."

#### 2. Pee smart.

If you must use a Porta-John, go to Centeroo, the festival's 24-hour gathering hub, early in the morning—when they've just been cleaned. Otherwise it's easier to just piss in a plastic jug at your campsite. But when isn't that true?

#### 3. Crank it...down.

Itain't all music. "The air-conditioned cinema tent gives you a different facet of the festival," says Capps. "This year we're premiering some films, like the Flaming Lips' Christmas on Mars. Or check out the 'silent disco' and laugh at partyers dancing to music you can't hear."

# 4. Upgrade yourself.

At \$1,169 per pair, VIP tix are more than double the regular four-day passes. But you get restricted-access shower and restroom facilities, VIP lounges with drink and buffets, and exclusive viewing bleachers. Says Capps, "By the time Sunday rolls around a lot of people would pay the premium for just one shower." Turn to page 127 for more summer tour info!

# HOTINK

# **BEACH READS**

Feed your sand-filled head what it wants.



#### Action!

Alan Furst's new novel, The Spies of Warsaw, is an intelligent, fast-paced WWII thriller about sex, money, and pierogies in an about-to-become Nazi-occupied Poland.



#### Depravity!

Fight Club author Chuck Palahniuk's Snuff is a twisted take on the world's biggest porno gangbang. Be sure to take a cleansing dip in the ocean after every chapter!



#### Depression!

John Hatcher's The Black Death: A Personal History tells you everything you ever wanted to know about the unstoppable killer plague that devastated a 14th-century English village. Pass the sad juice!



# Irrelevance!

Brian "Head" Welch's Washed by Blood is the ex-Korn guitarist's second book about his unlikely conversion to Christianity. It's enough to make baby Jesus cry!



If you crave great golfing with a soda machine always within reach, hit Mountain Streams at Lahey Family Fun Park in Scranton, PA. This par-51 course trades typical wacky mini-golf for some of the most challenging putts ever. Carved out of Pennsylvania's Endless Mountains, it's got almost 35 feet of elevation changes, a huge waterfall, and fast-flowing streams. The only talking clown here will be you.



# SKIN TO WIN

# **GLOVE UP**

Haven't upgraded from the Rickey Henderson glove you had as a kid? Then it's time to trade up to a premium mitt by Nokona, the last major American-made glove manufacturer standing. Each is hand-stitched by leather crafters at the factory in Northern Texas; exotic leather choices include kangaroo and buffalo. What, no armadillo? \$150-\$275, nokona.com



4

HOT EURO BABES SUNBATHING TOPLESS: RALEIGH HOTEL POOL, MIAMI >

# RESULTS ARE IN FROM A NEW HORSEPOWER TORTURE TEST.



WINNER.



GOT SPANKED.

Castrol SYNTEC 5W-30 maintained maximum horsepower 29% longer than the leading conventional oil in new torture tests. On the road, will you be the spanker or the spankee? Depends on your oil. Get Castrol SYNTEC. See the torture at castrol syntec.com.

IT'S MORE THAN JUST OIL. IT'S LIQUID ENGINEERING. ( Castrol )





# TICKET TO DIE

# **HEART ATTACK**

Three ways to cheat death this summer!



#### **Fahrenheit**

## Hershey Park, Hershey, Pennsylvania Opened May 2008

This coaster's 97-degree drop is the steepest in the U.S. Other features include two inverted corkscrew rolls and 85 seconds of perpetual vomiting.

## Skyscraper

# Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio Opened May 2008

Hang from a propeller arm and get spun around at speeds of up to 55 mph. Paying for equilibrium damage is always a wise investment.

#### California's Great America, Santa Clara, California Opened April 2008

Why endure 360-degree vertical arcs in a spinning seat while you get blasted with fire and water effects? Because nothing's better than simulating menopause as you plummet toward cement!

# GET TOE UP

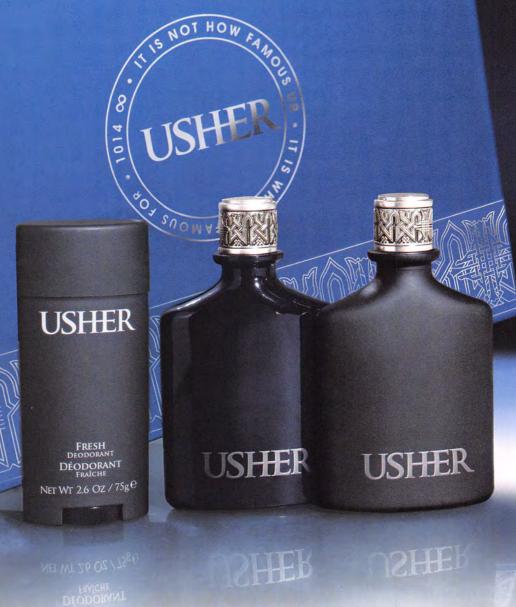
# FLIP-FLOP

Like popped collars and coke-addicted yuppies, Quiksilver's Molokai flipflop evokes the '80s with its neon color scheme. We're not sure why it is named after a Hawaiian island with a leper colony, but suddenly we feel like dunking ourselves in Purell. Neurosis aside, they're really comfy and let you gaze at your tootsies all day long. \$15, quiksilver.com









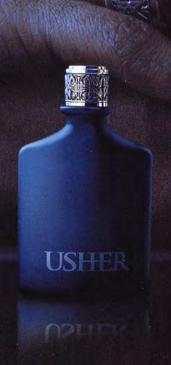
THIS GIFT SET INCLUDES A 3.4 FL OZ EAU DE TOILETTE SPRAY, 3.4 FL OZ REFRESH AFTER SHAVE TONIC, AND A 2.6 OZ FRESH DEODORANT.

A \$126.00 VALUE, YOURS FOR \$75.00\*.

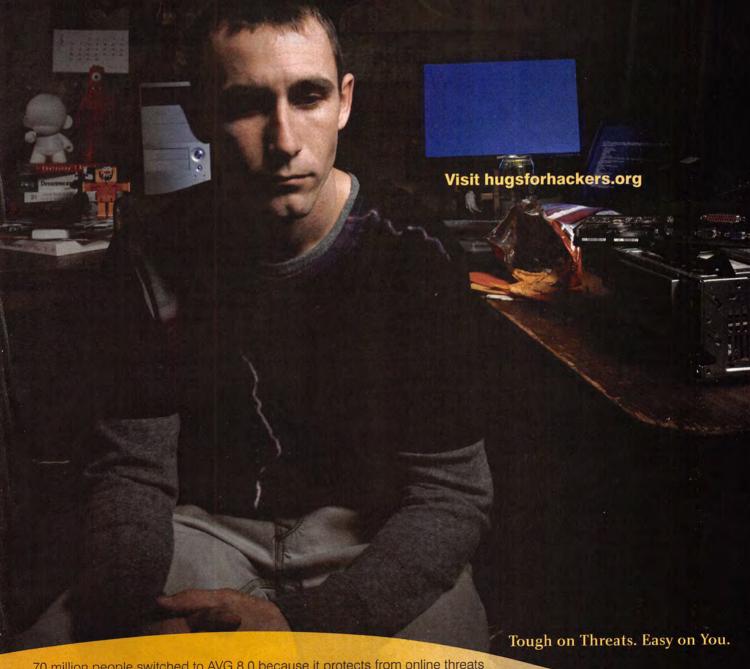
# USHER THE SCENT FOR MEN

Lift to experience Usher for Men

**AVAILABLE AT MACY'S** 



Meet The Samura1. This cyber-criminal gained fame hacking office networks from deep within his mom's basement. But suddenly he was blocked from his cyber dojo, and the master is now the student.



70 million people switched to AVG 8.0 because it protects from online threats without slowing PC's or networks to a crawl. That put a lot of hackers, and their threats, out of business. But we're dedicated to the rehabilitation of every lost soul defeated by our award winning software. To help us help them, visit **hugsforhackers.org.** Do it now, because somewhere there's a hacker who needs a hug.





Check your pride at the door.





# MoCCA (N.Y.C., June 7-8)

If the prospect of owning an original sketch of The Flaming Carrot gets you aroused, get your boner a weekend pass to this alternative-comics festival with a yearly guest list of dork idols like Moby and Michel Gondry. moccany.org

# Heroes Con (Charlotte, NC, June 20-22)

Probably the best pure-comics convention left. That means no movie trailers, no TV stars—just boxes and boxes of comics for sale, and appearances from the likes of Jason Aaron! (You know, the guy who writes Wolverine?) heroesonline.com

# Anime Expo (Los Angeles, July 3-6)

If you're into Japanese animation and manga—or just want to see a parade of women in Asian schoolgirl outfits—AX is all you. anime-expo.org

# Lebowski Fest (Louisville, KY, July 11–12)

You might think you've read all there is to know about this annual ode to bowling, white Russians, and nihilism, but trust us—this still has to be seen to be believed. lebowskifest.com

# San Diego Comic Con (July 23-27)

The mother of all cons. With massive crowds, A-list celebs, and sneak previews of upcoming Hollywood blockbusters, this fest is now known as "Cannes for Fans." God, we feel like kicking sand in our own faces for writing that. comic-con.org



## DEADLY DELICACIES

# DAVE ATTELL'S BOARDWALK FATS

Boardwalk food is more than just food, it's pornography for your colon. They have sexy names like foot-long hot dogs and deep fried clams. But unlike porn, if your girlfriend finds out, you don't have to move into your car. Here are a few of my favorite snacks from Atlantic City:

#### **Pork Roll**

The boardwalk is home to many games of chance, where you can spend hundreds trying to win a Flavor Flav beach towel. But if you want to really test your luck, eat a pork roll. It's loaded with ham and cheese and left baking in the sun all day. After three bites, I like to race myself to the Porta-John. I feel like Daniel Day-Lewis in There Will Be Blood. They should sell pork rolls wrapped in a new pair of pants.

# **Frozen Custard**

There is nothing better on a hot day. It's like

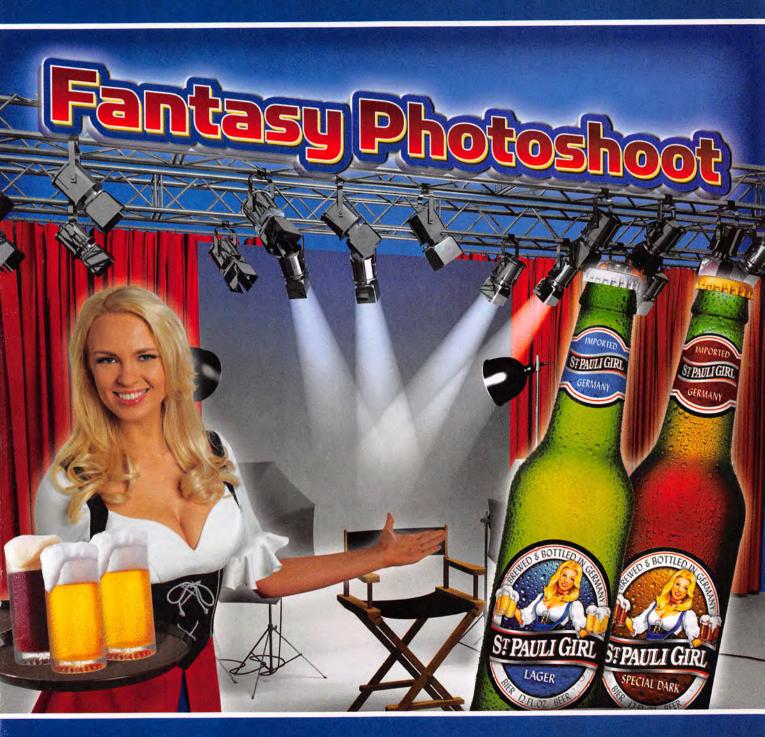
eating ice cream and pudding at the same time. Just thinking about it makes my man boobs heave with delight!

#### Fried Oreos

This bumps dessert to a whole new level. Take an Oreo and deep fry it in cake batter until the sticky center melts into a sweet messy goo. It looks like something that comes out of a clown if you tickle him too hard. It's so sweet, it's like getting a lap dance from a magical unicorn as you watch Juno three times in a row. Enjoy.



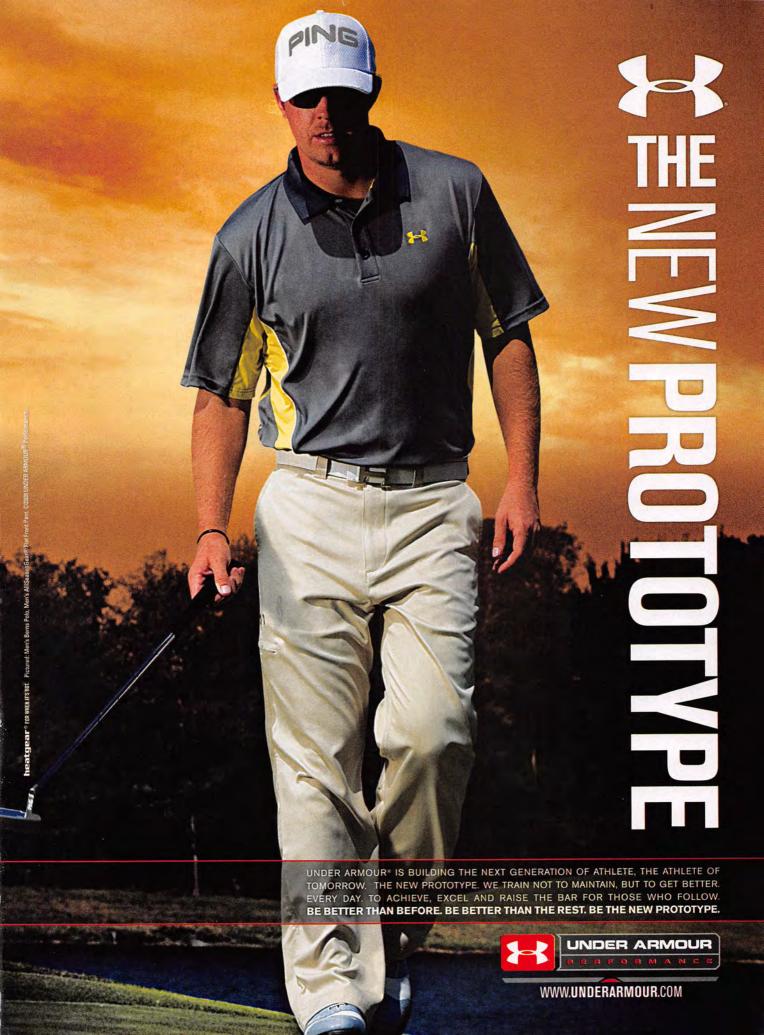
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# SHANE MACGOWAN IS



With apologies to a certain Mr. Richards, no rock star has ever led as debauched and self-destructive a life as the lead singer for the legendary Irish punk band the Pogues. And somehow he's lived to tell the tale.

BY IONATHAN RENDALL

So be easy and free/When you're drinking with me/I'm a man you don't meet every day.
—from "I'm a Man You Don't Meet Every Day"

SHANEMACGOWAN, LEADER, VOCALIST, AND songwriter for the legendary punk-folk band the Pogues, is not an easy man to track down. The heroic boozer, self-proclaimed brawler, and poet for a generation is one of rock's most elusive icons, so renowned for his self-destructive misbehavior that getting him on the record is a mere first step. It doesn't mean you'll survive the process, which I'll discover all too well when I'm carried, semiconscious, out of his modest Dublin home following our sit-down. It's not the way one expects to conclude an interview, but then, MacGowan is hardly a normal subject.

That MacGowan is even alive is something of a miracle. With his unrivaled capacity for consumption, he's like Keith Moon, Jim Morrison, and Sid Vicious rolled into one. They, however, are dead, while MacGowan, now an astonishing 50, is not. The Pogues, MacGowan's ragtag band of Anglo-Irish miscreants, turned

rock on its head-and made arguably the greatest drinking music ever-by wedding the breakneck recklessness of punk and the traditional instrumentation and lilting melodies of Celtic folk. And though he has been called amongst the finest songwriters in rock'n'roll history by no less than Bob Dylan, Bono, and Elvis Costello, MacGowan stands as an exemplar and a warning that what can make an artist great can stand in the way of greater fame. When he collapsed in Heathrow airport, his doctor told MacGowan he had two years to live. That was 20 years ago. "The media are always trying to put someone in that particular box," MacGowan noted of the infatuation with his well-being. "But they were wrong, 'cause I'm still here, and I'm very much alive. I'm older now than most rock'n'roll casualties are when they die." He's also been declared certifiably insane and claims that, at his peak, he'd put away three bottles of whiskey a day, as well as untold other intoxicants. Yet on the eve of a sold-out U.S. tour, Shane MacGowan lives on.

Waiting outside his den, where he is blasting traditional Irish music from the stereo, I don't know quite what to expect. MacGowan has a well-earned reputation for being either charming or downright hostile, depending on which way the breeze is blowing and how much he's had to drink. Finally, when his longtime girlfriend, Victoria Mary Clark (they met two decades ago in a pub; legend has it he picked a fight with the bouncer), shouts that his dinner is ready, MacGowan emerges with a Chaplinlike gait that falls just short of a stagger. He's a remarkable sight: the famously toothless maw that seems incapable of supporting the bloatedjowls; the jug ears; the pallid, ghostlike complexion. On the other hand, he has a full head of lank brown hair, his face is unlined, and he is relatively clear-eyed. "John's yer name, right?" he slurs. I nod. It is near enough. "That's my name as well," he says. "Shane is an old Northern Irish name meaning Sean, which means John. We're the John generation!" He appears most happy with this analysis.

MacGowan was born on a farm in Tipperary to a family with a bent for music, dancing, and, not least, drink. His mother was, for a time, a model; his father was said to be a notorious boozer and gambler. MacGowan himself claims to have drunk, smoked, and gambled from the age of six. Tonight he does not conclusively appear drunk, but when he slumps in his chair and asks about his vegetarian sausages (yes, he of the epic self-destructive streak refrains from meat and fish), he quickly lapses into near incomprehensibility. Having poured each of us a glass of wine, MacGowan reflects upon musical influences. "Like, Jimi Hendrix turned me on," he says. "Ireland was a fuckin' musical backwater. And I'd been in a family in Ireland that was always having parties and playing music, and one thing led to another, y'know?"

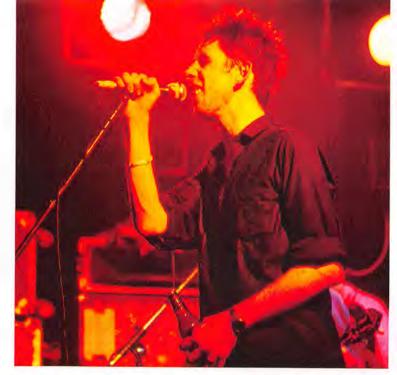
Um, not really. But maybe that's because MacGowan punctuates his conversation with a strange, jarring noise. It might be spelled "Cccccrrh." Halflaugh and halfgrowl, he ends most sentences with it.

The enduring fascination with MacGowan stems from both the mere fact of his survival, and whether—so long after his peak output—his artistic inspiration has run dry. I ask him.

"I never lost it," MacGowan replies bluntly. "Cccccrrh."

I am going, I am going/Any which way the wind may be blowing/I am going, I am going/ Where streams of whiskey are flowing. —from "Streams of Whiskey"

THE MACGOWANS MOVED TO LONDON IN 1964, and Shane wasted little time exhibiting both sides of his personality. A precocious knowledge of the great poets won him a schol-





From his early days on the London punk scene, MacGowan, shown here during the Pogues' mid-'8os peak, was the face of self-destruction. But his snaggletoothed grin masked the mind of one of the finest songwriters in rock'n'roll history.



arship to the prestigious Westminster School, from which he was expelled at 14 for drug possession. The burgeoning punk scene of the mid-'70s was a natural beacon: Hewas famously photographed covered in blood at an early Clash show. The Sex Pistols' Sid Vicious and Johnny Rotten were pals, and he edited a punk fanzine called Bondage. But a modestly paid journalism career was never going to work. Though MacGowan believed punk had sold its soul by the '80s, this didn't prevent him from formulating a plan to resurrect punk's spirit—and to make some money in the process. His epiphany was simple: Marry punk's attitude with traditional Irish music.

"There was nothing happening on the live music scene at the time," according to Mac-Gowan. "Itwas all this synthesizer stuff and all clubs and so on. We just got a band together and got a few gigs and started blasting it out."

Pogues cofounder Spider Stacy backs up the inauspicious origin. "At the Roundhouse pub, when I first met him, Shane was standing at the urinal talking about his fanzine," he says. "I wasn't in awe of him, but I knew that he was a 'face' on the scene. We had no expectations with the band, so the way it all took off was a huge surprise."

Originally dubbed Pogue Mahone (Gaelic for "Kiss My Arse"), the Pogues grew to a core group of eight musicians who offered an aggressive counterbalance to Duran Duran, A-ha, and other glossy '80s popsters. MacGowan initially played rhythm guitar, but it soon became clear he should dowhat he was good at—write songs and belt them out at the front of the stage in his habitual style of a demonic angel.

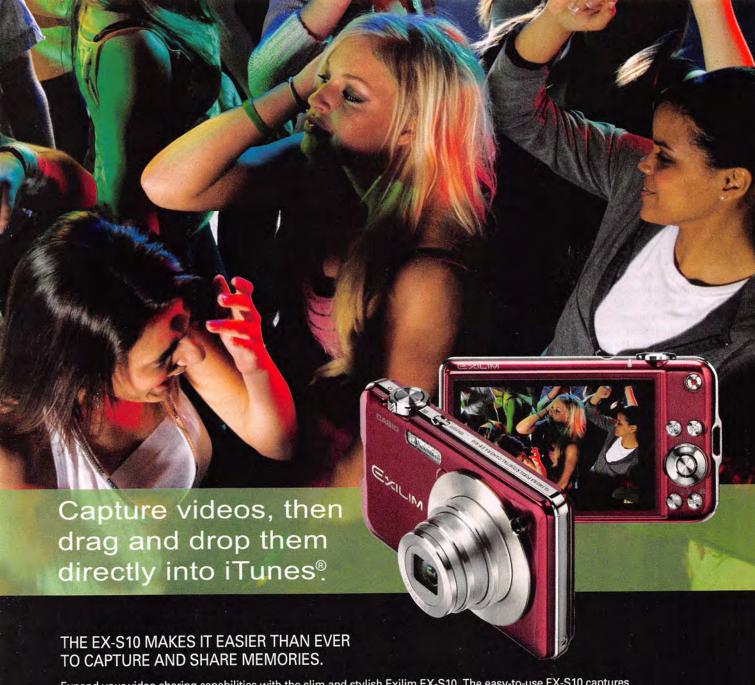
"The sound was not something we talked about," recalls Stacy, who was noted for keeping time by bashing a beer tray against his forehead. "The X-factor was Shane, but it was also the chemistry of the band itself."

It wasn't long before Pogues gigs became as notorious for an atmosphere of drunken fun as for the unique sound the band was forming. "The gigs I enjoy are the ones where I am

66

HE'S LIKE JIM MORRISON, SID VICIOUS, AND KEITH MOON ROLLED INTO ONE.

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so angry and paranoid, and I hate the audience so much, that I put everything into it to feed off the aggressive side of it," said MacGowan at the time. "I don't actually hate the fans, but when I'm feeling angry, pissed off, and full of hate, it's a good gig for me."

And now I'm lying here I've had too much booze/ I've been shat on and spat on and raped and abused. -from "The Old Main Drag"

BETWEEN 1984 AND 1987, THE POGUES REleased a stream of classic songs, including "Boys From County Hell," "A Pair of Brown Eyes," and "Sally MacLennane." Their fame spread to the United States, where Irish-American communities along the Eastern Seaboard-especially New York and Boston-embraced the band with nationalist fervor. It was perfect drinking music, the kind of jukebox fare that sparks a boozy sing-along; moreover, tunes of a quality and rigor not seen or heard outside of Bob Dylan at his best. The Pogues never achieved the commercial success of contemporaries like U2, but five brilliant albums (including masterpieces Rum, Sodomy and the Lash and If I Should Fall From Grace With God) spawned a devoted cult following. The crowning glory, 1987's "Fairytale of New York," proved to be MacGowan's retirement plan, returning to the charts every Christmas.

"They had a huge impact, and their live shows were always something special," recalls former manager Frank Murray, noting the honesty and purity the Pogues brought to the music scene. "Shane is just an incredible, literate writer. Thank God he came along in the '80s."

There's a point, however, when what makes a band great can become a liability. By the end of the decade, cracks were beginning to appear between the frontman and the other members of the band, mainly centering on MacGowan's

erratic behavior, both onstage and off. According to Victoria, MacGowan has been to rehab numerous times, and in 1988 he was committed to St. John of God's hostel, a.k.a Bedlam. Stories abound of his bad behavior: Shane going missing before a gig and being led back to the venue by fans; Shane drunk in New Zealand, painting himself blue to consort with Maori spirits; Shane walking past a taxidermy shop while tripping on acid and calling the police to report a wild bison on the loose running in the streets of London.

"I'll always remember when we were supposed to open for Bob Dylan, and Shane missed the concert, because I was the one who had to sing!" recalls Stacy. "He managed to miss his plane five times. Thanks, Shane." MacGowan, by all accounts, treated the band's objections with a certain amount of disdain: It was his band. and without him they would be nothing. But in 1991, after MacGowan, blitzed on sake, fell face-first out of a Tokyo taxi and missed three straight gigs, the band gave him the ultimate push-off. They fired him.

"Shane was unhappy being in the group," according to bassist Darryl Hunt. "But he couldn't stand up and say, 'I'm quitting.' His behavior became his way of quitting. I was actually relieved when we asked him to leave. I thought he shouldn't be doing it anymore, because it was a danger to his health." When told of his fate, MacGowan announced that he was delighted: "The Pogues was originally a lot of fun. But it soon turned into a job. Honestly, I was glad to leave it behind. If I hadn't left when I did, I'd be dead or in an institution."

So began the wilderness years. MacGowan formed a new band, the Popes, with limited success. His old band mates carried on for a time as the Pogues, with similarly diminishing returns. Meanwhile, MacGowan's lifetime of self-destruction was taking a serious toll. "I've lived a totally irresponsible existence."

The photo at left, of a bloody MacGowan at a Clash gig in 1976, became a symbol of punk nihilism, but it was the Pogues' musicianship that set them apart from the glossy '80s music scene.





who has lived longer than expected.



1. IGGY POP

This proto-punk legend says he used to ingest "two grams of biker speed, five tabs of LSD, and as much grass as could be inhaled" before Stooges shows. He's long since kicked drugs, but is still addicted to showing off his freakishly sinewy, 61-year-old physique onstage. Estimated time of departure: 2028

#### 2. PETE DOHERTY

MacGowan's friend and spiritual successor, Doherty's bad behavior has made him a tabloid fixture across the pond, but his dalliances with smack, crack, and booze have also made him a fixture in Britain's prison system. He allegedly got his pet cat hooked on crack. Classy!

Estimated time of departure: 2009

#### 3. OZZY OSBOURNE

MTV's The Osbournes transformed him from metal mascot to everybody's favorite braindamaged TV dad. He gave new meaning to the term "party animal" by drunkenly using critters as props, including biting the heads off a bat and a dove, and snorting a line of ants. Estimated time of departure: 2019

#### 4. SCOTT WEILAND

He recently parted ways with Velvet Revolver-after his umpteenth stay in rehab-to sing with his old band Stone Temple Pilots, who previously booted him because of his stubborn addiction to heroin. Let's hope his squabble with VR leads to a reunion of the original Guns n' Roses.

Estimated time of departure: 2011

#### 5. KEITH RICHARDS

When Jimi, Janis, and Jim checked out, the smart money was on the Stones guitarist as the next to go (you could have said the same 30 years ago, 20 years ago, etc.). At this point, it's taken for granted that when the world ends, the only survivors will be cockroaches and Keef.

Estimated time of departure: 2179



# IF YOU WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE IN THIS MAGAZINE TO SEE YOU NAKED, YOU NEED TO DRINK THIS STUFF!



Take responsibility for your decisions about nutrition. Three square meals a day is often difficult, if not impossible.

Muscle Milk® Nutritional Shake is an excellent source of protein designed to help promote efficient fat burning, lean muscle growth and fast recovery from exercise.

Now let's talk about who's who and who's going to see who naked.



MacGowan acknowledged three years after the breakup. "I've given no thought to what I've swallowed or poured down my throat or stuck up my nose over the years." By 1998 his friend Sinead O'Connor, concerned he was killing himself with heroin, ratted MacGowan out to the police. And in April 2001, he was savagely beaten in the bathroom of a London pub by a construction worker, thereby removing most of his remaining teeth. "He could easily have killedme," MacGowan reflected. "But he didn't, because I've got the luck of the devil."

The truth was that neither the Shane-less Pogues nor the Pogues-less Shane could hold a candle to the band as one, and in December of that year, they finally reunited to rapturous reception. Every year since, they've embarked on a British tour around Christmas and an American tour around St. Patrick's Day. Unlike, say, the Eagles or the Police, these weren't bland, corporate-sponsored reunion tours, but celebrations of what made the Pogues so great to begin with: fellowship, musicianship, and raucous hell-raising. At a Dublin show in 2002, a blotto MacGowan vomited all over the first few rows of fans. And during last year's swing through the U.S., he tripped on a cable and had to finish the tour in a wheelchair. "Funnily enough," says Stacy, "while he's always had presence, that made it even more so. He was like the dark emperor sitting on his throne."

Some people, they are scared to croak, but Jimmy drank until he choked/And he took the road for heaven in the morning. -from "Sally MacLennane"

BACKATTHE DINNERTABLE, IT'S BECOMING clear that conversation with MacGowan is akin to going down the rabbit's hole: There are tangents, non-sequiturs, and potentially inflammatory observations. "Same way as rock'n'roll is never gonna die out, reggae is never gonna die out. They're all related. The black niggers and the white niggers. Cccccrrh. And then you've got the in-between niggers. I'm trying





Since their 2001 reunion, the Pogues and MacGowan have played to sold-out crowds on both sides of the Atlantic.

to get a point across," he declares, attempting to clarify. "I'm thinking of being called a fucking Paddy and you not getting it right there, except getting thrown out of the window, 'Cause we're proud of the white niggers, yeah?"

Given the mythology that surrounds Mac-Gowan, one wonders if all the drinking stories might be a ruse. After all, if they were true, wouldn't he be dead? "Oh, no, I've drunk with Shane, and I've never seen anyone drink Guinness so fast. Pint after pint after pint," says one friend. "And then after the Guinness, out would come the bottle [of liquor] from his coat."

At an age when most rock stars have put their self-destructive behavior behind them, MacGowan remains defiantly unrepentant. "I've got a terrible imagination that blows things out of proportion," he's said. "I do imagine awful things, you know. Give me a simple problem and I'll fucking turn it into a catastrophe in a matter of minutes."

"I've tried to make Shane more like other rock stars," Victoria sighs. "More presentable, more domesticated, more respectable, more health-conscious, more materialistic, so we can be in Hello magazine and party with Elton and Sting and Bono. I've tried to get him to be nice to celebrities so they'll invite us to hang out with them. But he won't, and they don't!"

MacGowan-who's actually friends with the likes of Johnny Depp, Tom Waits, and, perhaps inadvisably, Pete Doherty-leans across the table and is soon on to the subjects of life, world affairs, and racial bigotry. "Life now is fuckin' worse than ever for everybody," he says, pouring more wine. "Alexander the Great took one look at Afghanistan and said, 'It can't be done.' And people think racism is just about the color of your skin, but it's not. It's because people are bullies."

It is perhaps pointless to attempt to interview MacGowan because his songs and life are so woven with myth-the myths of "big men," "great blokes," great fighters and drinkers. He concurs. "Everything is in the songs," he says. "The music directs it." He pauses. "So it does."

MacGowan has few regrets. He's lived the life he wanted, and he's paid the price. "I've had a very happy life. If they stuck me in a box tomorrow, I'd know I've had a bloody whale of a time," he observed a decade ago. "How many other people have made loads of money and done every drug under the sun and gone out every night and been all over the world before they were 30?"

At the end of the evening, we shake hands and I move to leave. We've both been drinking for the better part of the day, but one should know better than to imbibe with Shane Mac-Gowan. The next thing I know I'm lying semiconscious on the carpet, with Shane at my side muttering and trying fruitlessly to get me to my feet. Eventually, Victoria hauls me upright and turns me over to Angela, the maid from across the road, who leads me, lurching, to safety. I cannot help but laugh, if somewhat ashamedly, while a refrain from McGowan's "A Pair of Brown Eyes" tinkles in my head:

So drunk to hell I left the place/Sometimes crawling, sometimes walking.

#### Drinker's to the **Pogues**

A five-album soundtrackto oblivion, courtesy of the best band ever for boozing. You'll thank us.



#### Red Roses for Me

The Pogues' debut, split between traditional Irish songs and originals, is a raucous affair, though Shane was still finding his way as a songwriter. Essential track: "Streams of Whiskey"



#### Rum, Sodomy and the Lash (1985)

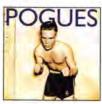
Produced by Elvis Costello (and named for a Churchill quote), this captures the band at its best: messy but precise, melodic but punk. Essential track: "A Pair of Brown Eyes'



#### If I Should Fall From Grace With God (1988) On their third album, the

Pogues tightened their sound while expanding their influences, adding Spanish, jazz, and Middle Eastern flourishes.

Essential track: "Fairvtale of New York"



#### Peace and Love (1989) Their first album of purely original mate-

rial, this saw the Pogues continuing to push their boundaries. But Shane's descent into addiction was taking its toll.

Essential track: "White City



#### Hell's Ditch (1990)

With Joe Strummer producing, the Pogues' final LP with MacGowan saw the band returning to the traditional Celtic sound with which they'd made

**Essential track:** "Summer in Siam"

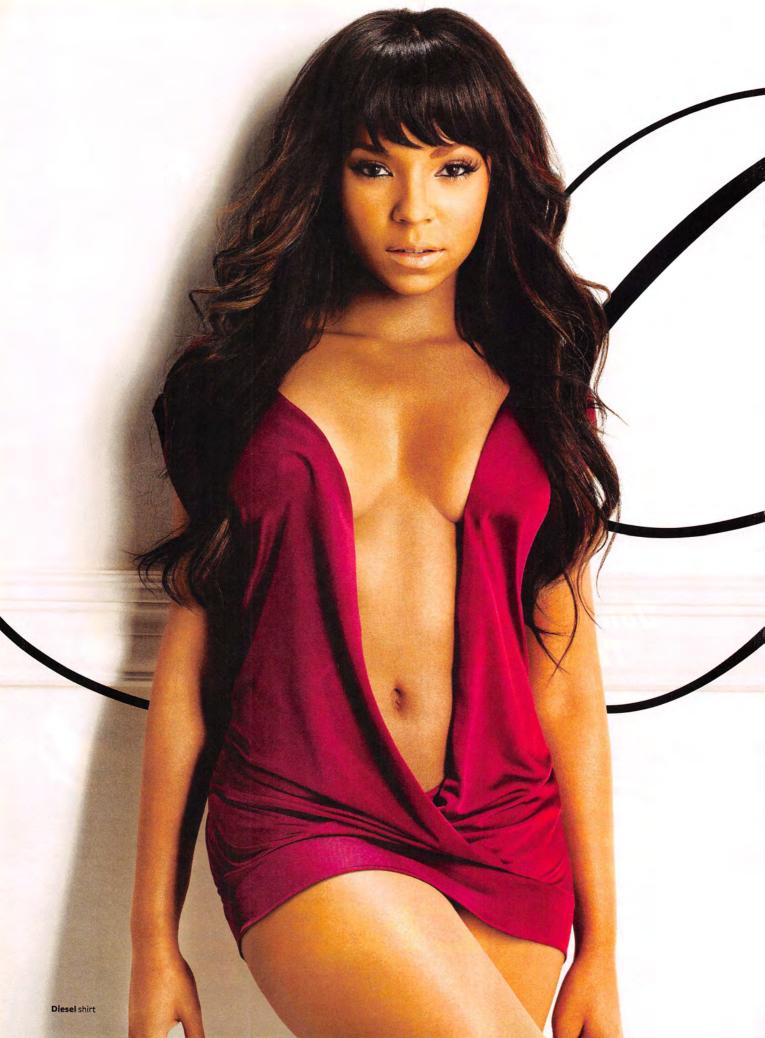


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MEN'S





CRACK OPEN GUINNESSWORLD RECORDS AND YOU'LL FIND ASHANTI—TWICE. WHEN SHE FIRST ARRIVED on the scene in 2002, she became the fastest-selling female debut artist in the United States. And when her first single, "Foolish," roosted atop the charts alongside her duet with Ja Rule ("Always on Time") and her collaboration with Fat Joe ("What's Luv"), Ashanti became only the second artist in music history to have three songs simultaneously in the Billboard top 10. The only other group ever to accomplish this feat? Some musty old Brits called the Beatles.

It's been four years since Ashanti's last studio album, but now she's back with her most mature recordings to date. For the first time, she's working with talent outside her label, the Inc. (formerly Murder, Inc.), laying down tracks with superproducer dream team Babyface, Jermaine Dupri, and Pharrell Williams. The resulting album is called *The Declaration*, and with it Ashanti is set to prove once again that she does more than just make records—she breaks them.



#### YOUR NEW ALBUM IS CALLED THE DECLARATION. WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE THIS MOMENT TO DECLARE ANYTHING?

Absolutely. I'm declaring that I'm here. The album is a new sound for me. I found out so much about myself working with new people. Everything had kind of been in-house for me, so I was used to having a security blanket—like Linus from *Peanuts* with his blue blanket. I'm declaring that it's been four years and a lot of people had questions, but I'm here, baby.

#### IN THE VIDEO FOR THIS ALBUM'S FIRST SINGLE, "THE WAY THAT I LUV YOU," YOU MAY HAVE KILLED A BOYFRIEND WHO'S BEEN CHEATING ON YOU. WAY TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE RELATIONSHIP!

I got the concept from this show called Snapped on the Oxygen network. We always see the stories about guys who murder a girlfriend; this particular show is about the women who eventually snap. It's a perfect match for the song, because when you're in love and you get hurt, it takes you to a dark, painful, passionate place.

#### HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN REVENGE ON A LYING, CHEATING EX-BOYFRIEND?

I've been hurt, absolutely. It takes you to a dark place. But I don't support murdering anyone. You can hurt him a little bit—maybe throw some grits on him.

#### DOESN'T SOMEONE AS BUSY AS YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN SIT AROUND AND WATCH OXYGEN?

I like Oxygen. But I usually watch crazy stuff like Forensic Files on truTV. There's something fascinating about cutting open a dead person's stomach and seeing if their peas were digested.

#### SO BASICALLY YOU LIKE SHOWS ABOUT DEAD BODIES. WILL YOU LET US IN ON ANOTHER GUILTY PLEASURE?

I eat so much candy it's not even funny. Everyone is shocked that all my

teeth aren't on the floor. I'll eat six bags of Sour Patch Kids at once, or three packs of Skittles. Oh, and I have to have watermelon Blow Pops in the studio. It's a little ridiculous.

#### WE ASSUME IT TAKES WORK TO KEEP YOU LOOKING LIKE YOU LOOK. Nope, just Colgate.

#### WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS FOR MAKING A SEXY VIDEO?

Natural beauty is what's up. Accentuate what you have. A swagger is also sexy. It's all about confidence. As a celebrity, it's sexy to be approachable.

#### DO YOU HAVE AN INSTANT TURNOFF?

Ican't stand guys who are too matchy-matchy. If you have on a Gucci hat, a Gucci belt, Gucci socks, Gucci sneakers, and a Gucci wristband, do not even come near me. You're trying way too hard.

#### THE VIDEO OF YOUR DEBUT SINGLE, "FOOLISH," COSTARRED A THEN-UNKNOWN TERRENCE HOWARD. HOW WAS THAT?

Terrence Howard is a lot older than me. I was young when I made that video, only 21. He was

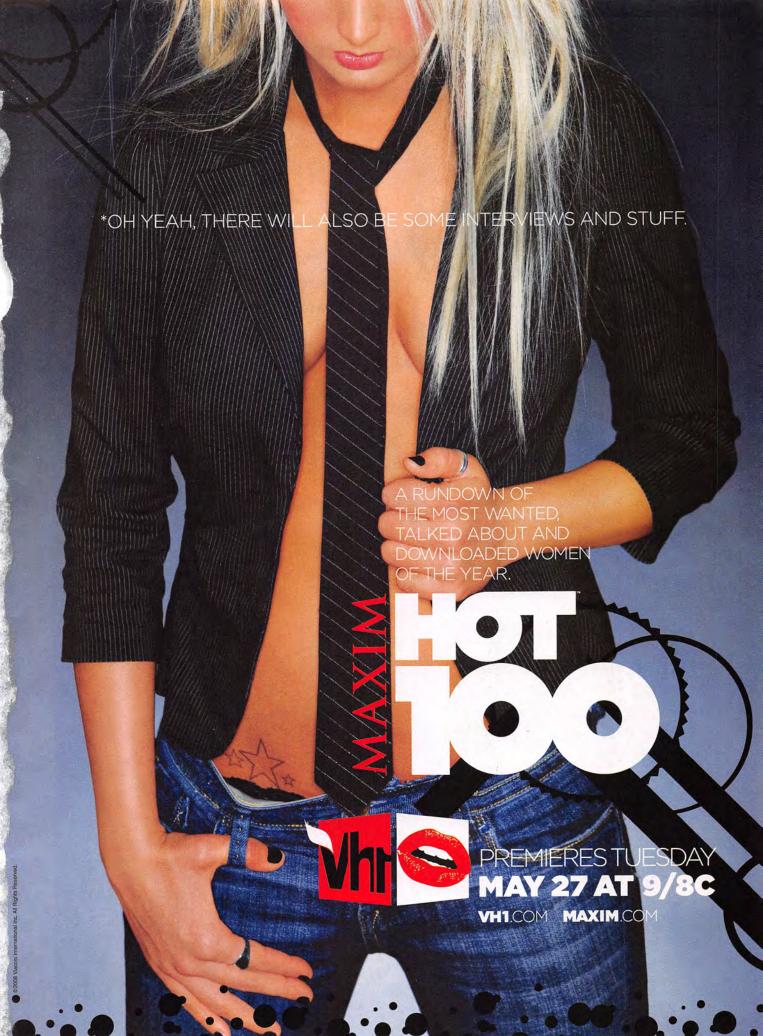
so funny on set. He's going to get mad at me for saying this, but at the end of the video they put the camera close up on my face as he gives me a hug. And he squeezed my ass! I was like, "Oh, my God, I know this dude did not just squeeze my ass! I'm going to get him." It was hilarious.

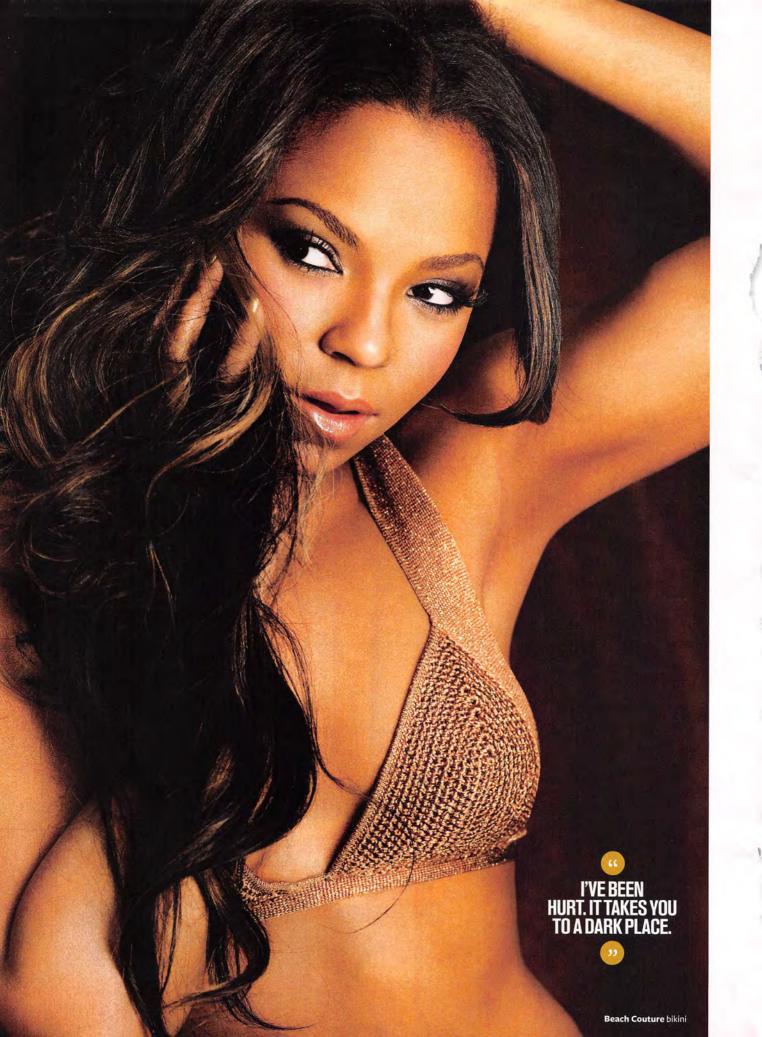
#### IF YOU COULD MAKE ONE LAW THAT ALL GUYS WERE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I don't want anyone all over me all the time. I want you to pick me up, give me a kiss, and then push me away. Be affectionate but not corny. Man up. Say, "Come here! I love you." Grab me really tightly or give me a kiss on the forehead. Then say, "All right, I'm out."

#### NATURAL BEAUTY IS WHAT'S UP. IT'S SEXY TO BE APPROACHABLE.

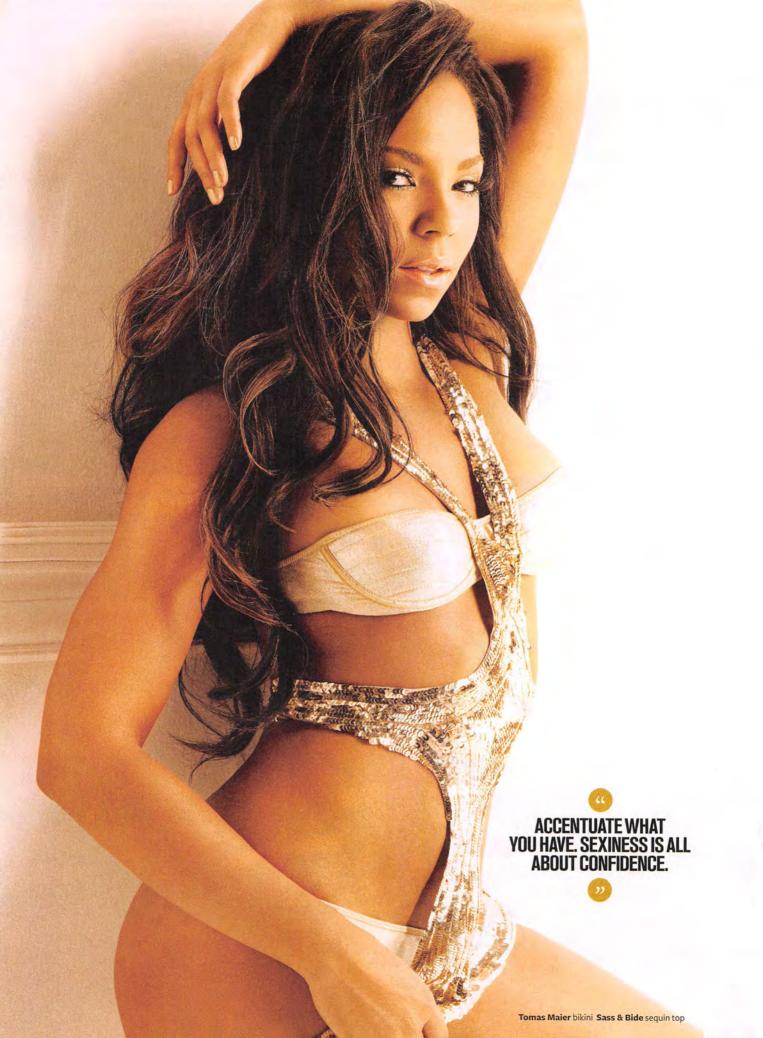


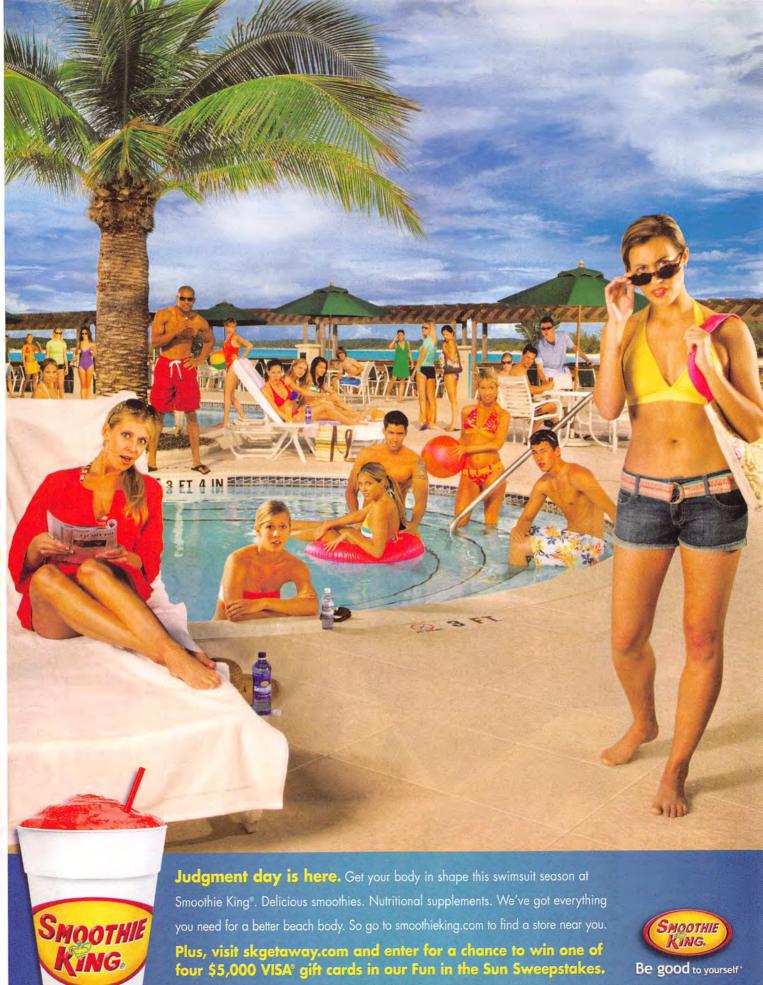












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Everywhere you turn today, comedy seems to be exploding. There's the Judd Apatow players churning out one big-screen yukfest after another, Will Ferrell and friends bringing their low-brow hilarity to the Web, and ever more sketch troops giving the upperclassmen at SNL a run for their money. So where did all these comedians learn their chops? We'd like to think it was here, at the ultimate institution of high-larious learning. So get ready to streak across the quad, because class is in session!

ILLUSTRATION BY \$8080

#### CHEERLEADERS O Sarah Silverman Tina Fey Amy Poehler • Kristen Wiig Chelsea Handler Cheryl Hines Wanda Sykes THE FRAT PACK **₩ill Ferrell** Vince VaughnOwen Wilson + Ben Stiller ♦ Jack Black Luke Wilson Steve Carell John C. Reilly **FACULTY** Steve Martin Bill Murray George Carlin Woody Allen Mel Brooks **APATOW HOUSE** +Seth Rogan +Jonah Hill → Michael Cera Paul Rudd **GUEST HOUSE** +Bill Hader Christopher Guest ◆James Franco Harry Shearer Jason Segel Michael McKean Eugene LevyCatherine O'Hara + Parker Posev Fred Willard



THE FIRST RULE OF BROCKLYN GIBLS FIGHT GLUB ISYOU DO NOT TALK ABOUT BROOKLYN
GRLS FIGHT CLUB

## LLUSTRATION, HIROKI TAI

## IN THE NOTORIOUS NEIGHBORHOOD THAT HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO MORE TOP FIGHTERS THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN AMERICA, A SECRET, UNDERGROUND CONTEST FOR WOMEN EMERGES.

BY FRANK OWEN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JANETTE BECKMAN

ON A CHILLY DECEMBER NIGHT IN THE HEART OF BROWNSVILLE, Brooklyn, the weather so cold even the drug dealers have retreated indoors, 100 or so rowdy young men and women from the adjacent housing projects have gathered inside a windowless garage. In the center is a brightly lit boxing ring stained with dried blood from a previous fight. Standing in the ring, two women dressed in street clothes and wearing martial arts training gloves are punching the frigid air.

In one comer the deceptively slender Danyel Portis (a.k.a. Do Her Own Motherfuckin' Thing) is using her fingertips to lightly grease her pretty face with Vaseline. She resembles a young Dionne Warwick and wears an impatient expression that says: Let's just do this. Danyel has no time for the prefight trash talking that usually accompanies these bouts. This single mother of three is not here to pop off her mouth. She's here for one reason only: to win the \$1,000 prize money so she can feed her kids.

In the other corner, a young woman named Aliya Zalk, who has maybe a 20-pound weight advantage over her rival, is also eager for the fight to start but for a different reason than Danyel: "You better make that money quick," her boyfriend, who is standing at the side of the ring, urges her. "Don't forget to cover your face." She is from next door, Flatbush, and exudes pure courage. Brave is the white girl who steps into this arena in a neighborhood where the only pale faces belong to the cops.

Despite the numerous hard-looking characters hanging around, the atmosphere in the room feels more like a family picnic than an illegal fight club. While adults eat McDonald's and sip Hennessy from plastic cups, baby-faced teenagers flash gang signs and pose for cell phone cameras and toddlers scream with delight, chasing each other around the echoing concrete space. Incongruous sights abound: a father sitting on a folding chair tenderly cradling a baby; a pit bull growling in a cage. Near the ring a film crew that has been hard at work on a documentary about the club prepares for the main event. By the entrance, two behemoths—one female, the other male—pat people down. Everybody gets checked for weapons. As soon as the last person has entered, the bouncers bolt the metal door shut. No one is allowed to leave until the event is done. If a fire breaks out, we'll all be goners.

A voice in the audience yells, "Put your bets down now," and \$20 bills appear from baggy trouser pockets and are passed from one hand to the next. While there is no admission charge for the fight, the proceeds from the gambling pays the fighters and finances the evening's festivities.

Jigga, one of the organizers and the MC for the evening, calls the women to the center of the ring. A lean 6'5", he is a popular figure in Brownsville, known as "the Mayor" for his talent as a peacemaker. That's a critical skill when dealing with the boisterous fans who often support fighters based on which public housing development (Tilden Houses, Brownsville Houses, Langston Hughes Houses, Marcus Garvey Houses) they come from. He explains the rules of the contest to the combatants: "No grabbing. No kicking. No scratching. No hair pulling. No biting. Three rounds. Ninety seconds a round." The fighters nod in acknowledgment. And with the blare of a car horn, the battle begins.

Aliya immediately goes on the attack, catapulting herself across the ring toward Danyel's corner like a human cannonball. She throws a wild right, which fails to connect after Danyel ducks. Then she throws a left, which also hits air, but this time Danyel is ready and grabs her opponent's arm in midflight and wraps it around her neck. Danyel is now strangling Aliya with her own limb. Aliya tumbles awkwardly to the

canvas gasping for breath. In a flash, Danyel is on top of Aliya, her legs straddling Aliya's chest. She pummels her face with both fists.

The crowd goes crazy with blood lust. Jigga spots that Aliya is in trouble and dashes across the ring to pull Danyel off her dazed rival and end the round. Jigga grabs Danyel under the arms, and as he heaves her up from the canvas, she gets in one last hard kick, direct to Aliya's face.

\* \* \*

The 1999 movie Fight Club is commonly credited with setting off the trend for semi-organized underground slugfests among teenage boys and young men, but informal female fight clubs, just like their all-male counterparts, have likely existed for decades in prisons, housing projects, and reformatory schools. In fact, the Brooklyn Girls Fight Club—born in Brownsville, the gritty ghetto that has spawned more top fighters than any other neighborhood in America—began in the late 1980s at the tail end of the height of the crack cocaine epidemic, when whole families lost themselves to the pipe.

"It started on the street with poor girls who desperately needed money to take care of their kids," says boxer Zab Judah, the former welterweight champion who grew up in Brownsville. "A guy would tell a girl: 'You're a tough bitch. I've got \$500. You fight my tough bitch.' And the guy's friends would bet on the fight. A lot of women thought: I got three kids. My lights are getting cut off. My rent is overdue. Where's the bitch at?"

Then a group of local gangsters decided to organize these street brawls and move them indoors into a boxing ring. Today half the audience assembled at the Brooklyn Girls Fight Club is female. The brawlers are recruited from the street, and they fight at the club to further establish

their rep in the neighborhood and to get a shot at the prize money. Why not get paid for doing something they would otherwise do every day for free?

The fights occur intermittently, publicized by word of mouth. The location, which

In an empty garage in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, Aliya Zalk (below left) and Danyel Portis fight for the \$1,000 prize.





changes each time, is kept secret up to the day of the fight. In the afternoon, word will start to spread through the housing projects that an event is in the offing, and people will begin to congregate outside the local barbershop; a car will pull up, and someone inside will announce where the fight is. Not everyone can attend. You have to know the organizers or someone connected to the fighters. Jigga refuses to identify who is behind the club. But it's a safe bet to assume the people who really run the show have good reason not to want publicity. "When you got a certain system going, if it's going good, why invite attention," the 38-year-old Jigga reasons.

Grim doesn't begin to describe the view from the peeling elevated railway on the corner of Rockaway and Livonia Avenues. Under a gray winter sky, a vast collection of faceless brown housing projects stretches as far as the eye can see. From the top of the projects, you can catch a glimpse of the Manhattan skyline, which might as well be in another country. Brownsville is so insular that many of the residents never leave the neighborhood. As well as being one of the poorest places in New York

City, Brownsville—whose unofficial motto is "Neverran, neverwill"—is also one of the most dangerous; the area's thought to be so hazardous to human health that U.S. Army field surgeons train for the Iraq War at the nearby Brookdale Hospital. At the moment, however, the neighborhood seems uncharacteristically safe. On nearly every street corner, bored-looking NYPD officers stand in pairs, part of Operation Impact, which has flooded the area with rookie cops. While elsewhere in New York City, murder rates continue to fall to historic lows, last year the 73rd Precinct, which covers Browns-

ville, posted the only increase in homicides of any precinct in Brooklyn up 37 percent from the year before.

No wonder, then, that this compact two-and-a-half-square-mile neighborhood has produced so many celebrated professional fighters. "Brownsville has always been a tough place, dating back to when it was a Jewish ghetto and you had [Mobboss] Meyer Lansky and Murder, Inc.," says former WBO heavyweight champion Shannon "the Cannon" Briggs, who grew up in public housing in the neighborhood eating "welfare cheese" and wearing "Medicaid sneakers."

During the 1930s, Jewish pugilists were the first to put Brownsville on the map as a boxing mecca. The most famous was Al "Bummy" Davis, dubbed "the Brownsville Bum" by the newspapers because of his dirty fighting style and the fact that his younger brother was a bagman for Murder, Inc. Davis' 1938 fight with another Brownsville fighter, Bernie "Schoolboy" Friedkin, attracted 6,000 fans to Madison Square Garden, where Davis KO'd Friedkin in the fourth round with a left hook to the jaw. In 1945, when four stickup guys tried to rob a bar in Brownsville that

Several notorious wins have made Danyel above, taping up and hanging out with her friends—one of the legends of the Brooklyn Girls Fight Club. Davis had recently sold, the fighter punched out one of the robbers and ended up being shot in the throat and killed. He was 25.

Two generations later, Mike Tyson emerged from the same hardscrabble neighborhood. The future Brownsville bomber was just a pre-

teen when he established his reputation as a terrifying street fighter after a teenage gangbanger snapped the neck of one of Tyson's beloved pigeons. An enraged Tyson beat the boy to a pulp. Another future heavy-weight champion, Riddick Bowe, lived nearby and attended the same school. Unlike Tyson, Bowe largely ignored the call of the streets.

Following in the wake of Tyson and Bowe, a new wave of Brownsville fighters rose to prominence, eager to use the sport as their meal tickets out of the ghetto, among them Shannon Briggs, Golden Gloves champion Danny Jacobs, and Zab Judah.

"Brownsville breeds the best fighters in the world," says Briggs. "What other neighborhood has produced so many champions?"

As the ever-popular Jigga (real name: Jeffrey Shepherd) walks down the avenue on the way to the liquor store, interrupted every few steps by somebody wanting to shake his hand, he ponders the question of what makes Brownsville a nursery not only for tough guys but tough girls too. The surrounding neighborhoods of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Flatbush, and East New York boast their fair share of warrior women who like to brawl in the streets. But Brownsville has a reputation for breeding hardfaced girls willing to "get busy" and "knuckle up" at the slightest provocation.

"You think an epidemic of violence is going to spread through a neighborhood and it's just going to touch guys?" Jigga shrugs his broad shoulders. "It's going to touch women too."

"Girls in Brownsville don't play," adds Briggs. "They will tear you a new asshole. Brownsville girls are known for being quick-tempered."

\* \* \*

Back at the Brooklyn Girls Fight Club, round two is about to begin. The noise of the crowd is deafening. Danyel Portis is standing in the comer, her thumbs hooked in the waistband of her jeans, a look of grim determination spread across her face. All around her is chaos, as friends and relatives in her corner scream advice: "Keep her on the ropes. Choke her out." Danyel tries to tune out the noise and concentrate on the task at hand. She knows she's winning. She says to herself: Imagine you're in a street fight outside.

The contest continues, as Danyel holds her fists up and jabs at





## A

#### QUIET PLACE TO REVEL IN YOUR ENTITLEMENT

he day you purchase the all-new Corolla is the day you'll start living the dream. Being a grand fromage in high society is indeed a lot to think about, hence the Corolla's tranquil interior is the perfect quiet place to contemplate



your domination of the latest cotillion. This crowning achievement is the result of an acoustic noise-reducing front windshield and sound-absorbing materials designed to help keep clamor and peons out, and thoughts of grandeur in.

Live The Dream For Less Coin





Aliya's face. Her punches show precision. Whack. She hits Aliya on the left side of her face, then the right. Aliya responds with a Hail Mary hay-maker that again fails to connect. Danyel hits Aliya one more time in the face and then grabs her around the neck, holding her head like a football, and hauls her roughly around the ring.

Then Danyel loses one of her sneakers, and Aliya sees an opening. As Danyel bends over to pick up her shoe, Aliya attacks her. Danyel fends her off with a number of kicks until Jigga separates the two women and temporarily stops the fight. Jigga picks up the sneaker from the canvas and hands it to Danyel. The brawl resumes.

By now Danyel is feeling winded. She can't believe that after all the punishment the girl is still standing. Why won't she stay down? When it comes to technique, Aliya is not much of a fighter, but neither is she a quitter. This white chick sure has heart, Danyel says to herself.

\* \* \*

Sitting in a shabby steam-table restaurant on Rockaway Avenue is a 33-year-old woman that Zab Judah calls "Brownsville's top bitch." Kia Hayden (a.k.a. Bloody Ass Knuckles) arrives for the interview dressed like a rap star in a sparkling winter white outfit complete with rap

According to Jigga (above left, in white), the grim projects of Brownsville (right) breed the toughest girls anywhere in New York.

star attitude. She is a legend in the neighborhood, known for her unparalleled ferocity both in and out of the ring.

"Kia has more fights under her belt than Hagler," says Jigga.

Kia was raised by her grandmother, along with nine sisters and brothers, all in a two-bedroon apartment in Brownsville. By her early teens, she was beating and robbing people, often sending her victims to the hospital. "They say I'm mean and I'm a troublemaker," she says. "A lot of niggas out here can't stand me." But Kia is unapologetic about her long track record of brawling with other females, even the time she punched out a pregnant women on the street. Asked whether she might have harmed her opponent's unborn child, she looks up and sniggers: "You ain't pregnant in the face."

Kia's epic tussle two years ago with Danyel Portis at the Brooklyn Girls Fight Club is still talked about the way old-school boxing writers remember the Ali-Frazier bouts of the 1970s. A brutal contest that pitted the underdog Danyel against the odds-on favorite Kia, for a while it looked like the Bloody Knuckles had the upper hand, knocking Danyel to the canvas and generally dictating the course of the fight. But by the end of round two, Kia was gasping for breath. Much to the crowd's surprise,



Five fighters who slugged their way out of Brooklyn's most hardcore'hood. Mike Tyson
A fearsome
knockout artist who
became the youngest
heavyweight champ
ever at age 20, his rep
as "the Baddest Man
on the Planet" was
KO'd by back-to-back
losses to Evander
Holyfield. Currently
in retirement, Tyson
was jailed last year
for DUI and cocaine
possession.



Riddick Bowe
This gifted boxer
beat Holyfield twice,
but was never the
same after two brutal
bouts with Andrew
Golota. He served
30 days in jail and six
months on probation
and was ordered to
seek psychiatric treatment after abducting
his estranged wife and
kids in 1998. He's now
trying a comeback.



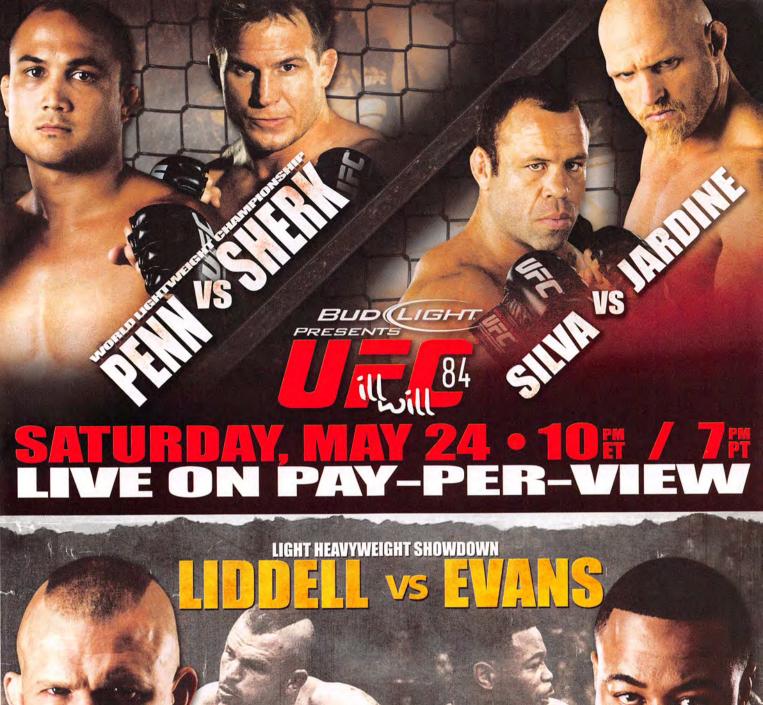
**Shannon Briggs** (3) A perennial contender since the 1990s, Briggs won the WBO heavyweight title with a stunning KO of Sergei Liakhovich in November 2006. He lost it to Sultan Ibragimod last year. Briggs blames his often sluggish ring performances on his lifelong battle with asthma.



Zab Judah
The flashy
former undisputed
welterweight king
has seen his career
go on a downward
spiral with his losses
to Carlos Baldomir,
Floyd Mayweather,
and Miguel Cotto.
Well on his way to a
comeback, Judah
faces off against former champ Shane
Mosley on May 31.



Danny Jacobs
Currently
Brownsville's best
boxing hope, this
21-year-old middleweight is a four-time
Golden Gloves champ.
HBO boxing analyst
Max Kellerman called
Jacobs "the best allaround amateur in the
country, and to me
it looks like he might
be a better pro than
amateur."







she got up off the stool and left the ring. It was Bloody Knuckles' first and only loss at the fight club.

"I would have won," says Kia. "But I couldn't breathe. I wasn't going to kill myself for a corny fight."

Kia says she's tired of fighting and yearns for a better life ("an office job, a nice house"), but in the next breath this high school dropout with a criminal record describes a recent incident at a local nightclub that ended with her repeatedly slamming a rival's head into the DJ's turntables.

Lack of self-esteem. Poor impulse control. The stress of ghetto living. Whatever the root cause, violence begins early in Brownsville. Little Keisha (not her real name) is Kia's niece. She's used to witnessing mayhem. Last year she saw her mom and her friends involved in a major fracas with

the cops in the local park. "Iwas scared," she says in her squeaky little voice. "I started crying. The cops sprayed Mommy with mace."

Keisha is only eight years old, but already she has numerous fights under her belt. "Dozens," she claims. She says she wants to be a math teacher when she grows up, a goal she's unlikely to achieve if she continues down her present path. The pretty little girl whose hair is freshly braided and beaded has spent the day at home in the Brownsville Houses watching cartoons ontelevision after being suspended from school

for her latest infraction: a brawl in the school lunchroom with a child the same age. "She was drumming on the table," Keisha says. "I asked her to stop, and she kicked me in the leg. So I punched her in the eye."

"I fight all the time," says Keisha. Who taught her that? "I got it from my mother," she says a little meekly, the violent habits of one generation begetting the violent habits of the next.

As the bout continues, Danyel (in blue jeans) pulls no punches in going after Aliya. Despite a courageous effort, the contender is out of her league. Rolling around near Aliya's corner, Danyel climbs on top of Aliya's back, and with a renewed spurt of energy, grabs her ponytail with her left hand, lifts up Aliya's head, and proceeds to smash the side of her face repeatedly with her right fist. Aliya struggles free and staggers

to her feet. Her face and neck are covered with scratches and welts. Danyel proceeds to wrap both arms around Aliya's neck and forces her back to her knees and then chokes Aliya till her eyes bulge and her mouthpiece pops out onto the canvas. Aliya, who looks like she's about to draw her last breath, desperately grabs at Jigga's shirt. Enough is enough. Jigga declares the fight over and Danyel the winner. The \$1,000

is hers. Danyel's kids will go to bed with full bellies tonight.

Soon after the fight, Danyel retired from the ring and put her \$1,000 in winnings toward resettling her family in the less perilous environment of Delaware. "I can't change the world, but I can change my situation, making it better for my kids so they don't have to feel like they always have to defend themselves, always have to have their guard up," she said recently from her new home.

"It's just growing up in Brownsville. You have to know how to defend yourself. You're taught from when you're young, if someone hits you, you hit them back. They grow up fighting, then teach their kids to fight, and it keeps on going and going."

Brooklyn Girls Fight Club will debut this fall on BET.



9

\* \* \*

As the third round begins, both Danyel and Aliya are obviously exhausted. Street fighters tend to lack stamina and pacing; after all, a typical corner brawl is over before you know it. Here a fight lasts three long rounds. Danyel rests her left arm on the ropes and tries to fend off Aliya with her right as her supporters scream in her ear: "Just knock her out. You can do it."

Meanwhile Aliya's boyfriend is leaning into the ring offering his own advice: "She's tired. Stay on her. You just got to keep working on her."

Danyel's sister hears what Aliya's boyfriend says and screams across the ring: "Fuck you! She's not tired. She's gonna fuck your bitch up."

Jigga pushes the girls together and warns them if they don't fight harder, no one gets paid. Within moments both girls are on the floor.





# PRIVATE DANIER

NINE YEARS AFTER AMERICAN PIE MADE HER A STAR, KNOCKOUT ACTRESS SHANNON ELIZABETH ISTAKING CENTER STAGE AGAIN AS THE BIGGEST BOMBSHELL ON MEGAHIT DANCING WITH THE STARS.



Eugenia Kim hat Giuseppe Zanotti pumps

THE 1999 INSTA-CLASSICTEEN SEX ROMP AMERICAN PIECATAPULTED A HOST OFTHINGSTO the forefront of pop culture: pie-humping, the term MILF, and, perhaps most importantly, Shannon Elizabeth, who stole the movie by portraying a sweet Czech exchange student unafraid of a little gratuitous nudity. After nearly a decade—and a handful of other hits, including the inevitable American Pie 2 and the \$157 million-earning Scary Movie—Shannon has reinvented herself as America's Sweetheart on the wildly popular show Dancing With the Stars. Each week nearly 20 million fans tune in (admit it, you've watched) to see Shannon maneuver through challenging tangos and cha-chas. At press time our three-time Maxim cover girl had scored the season's first perfect 10 (for her Viennese waltz, whatever the hell that is) and was favored to win. And that's not her only extracurricular skill: Shannon is a formidable poker player, appearing in two recent poker-themed movies: The Grand, an improvised comedy released in March, and this spring's Deal, starring Burt Reynolds. Once again Shannon is at the top of her game.

#### DID YOU EVER WORRY THAT YOUR HOLLYWOOD LEGACY WOULD BE STAR-RING IN A MOVIE IN WHICH A GUY MOLESTED A PIE?

Ha! Not really, because if that hadn't happened, people wouldn't know who I am at all. I'm totally fine with that.

#### DID YOU HAVE RESERVATIONS BEFORE DOING DWTS? LIVE TV OFFERS SO MUCH POTENTIAL FOR DISASTER—FAINTING, WARDROBE MALFUNCTIONS.

I was terrified. My first thought was, "What if I suck and get kicked off the first week?" But it's been a fun way to reinvent myself.

#### DO CREEPS NOW ASK YOU TO DO THE "HORIZONTAL MAMBO"?

Men don't hit on me, ever. Even in high school, I was never asked out.

#### YOUR PARTNER HAD TO WEAR A NECK BRACE FOR A WEEK BECAUSE OF A DANCE MOVE GONE WRONG. HAVE YOU BEEN ROUGHED UP AT ALL?

I've rolled my ankles a few times, and I keep scratching up my legs with the heels of my shoes. I'm scratched and bruised everywhere.

#### HAVE YOU EVER BEEN HURT WHILE MAKING A MOVIE?

We were filming a scene in 13 Ghosts where I was being dragged across the floor. The cameraman was running after me to get the shot, but when I stopped he fell on top of me with the camera and everything.

#### WE'RE SURE IT WAS AN "ACCIDENT." ANYWAY, ONE OF THE *DWTS* JUDGES SAID YOU SEEM COMFORTABLE IN YOUR SKIN. HAVE YOU ALWAYS?

Never! I've always felt like every successful thing I've done is because I've fooled people. I used to play tennis, and I'd always win, but I wasn't a good player. I'd think, I'm completely fooling them.

#### NOW WE KNOW WHY YOU'RE GREAT AT POKER. YOU'RE A BIG BLUFFER!

It hought poker was really dumb at first. But as I kept playing, I got into the psychological aspect of it. It's in my nature to want to win.

#### HAVE YOU EVER BLOWN YOUR OWN MIND AT THE POKER TABLE?

It was crazy when I got third place in the 2007 National Heads-Up Poker Championship. I beat one of the greatest poker players around, and I almost won it all. Crazy!

#### WAS THAT THE MOST YOU'D EVER WON?

Yep, \$125,000.

#### SO HOW OFTEN DO YOU GO TO VEGAS?

Twenty to 30 times a year. For the World Series of Poker I was there for two months straight.

#### HOW DO YOU SPEND TWO MONTHS IN VEGAS AND NOT GO INSANE?

By not staying on the Strip. When people go crazy in Vegas, it's because they're partying on the Strip every night. For the World Series, I'm playing tournaments every day, and then I go home and sleep. It's a job.

#### WHAT'S THE MOST SINFUL NIGHT YOU'VE HAD IN SIN CITY?

We've all had times where we're out all night and go to every club we can find. Usually, when the night is good, you don't remember anyway.

#### UNLESS THE PAPARAZZI ARE THERE TO REMIND YOU.

They care more about me now than they did for a while. During rehearsals, I found a note on my car, saying if I wanted "proper paparazzi shots," I should call this guy. I was shocked, so I called and said, "How the hell did you know that was my car?" He's like, "Common knowledge."

#### SO IS IT BETTER TO BE IN CAHOOTS WITH THE PAPARAZZI?

Yes, by far. Because if they're getting a bad photo where my eyes are half open, and that's the only shot they have, they'll put it out there.

#### AND THEN EVERYONE WILL SAY YOU'RE ON DRUGS.

Exactly. I'm nice to them and give them what they want, because that's their job, whether I like it or not.

#### MOST PEOPLE REFER TO THOSE GUYS AS BLOOD-SUCKING SCUMBAGS.

The tabloids are still press, and press ultimately helps us get jobs. As long as I'm not doing anything bad, I have nothing to worry about.

#### IS THERE ANYTHING ABOUT YOU THAT MAY SURPRISE OUR READERS?

I'm a tomboy. Already today I've changed two light bulbs and hung a picture. When I bought my house, the toilet ring needed to be changed, so I got a how-to book and did it myself. As long as it doesn't involve gas or electricity or blowing up the house, I'll totally give it a try.

## THE REAL DEAL

Like cover girl Shannon Elizabeth, these beauties took it to the next level with reality TV.

#### Jessica Simpson Newlyweds

Before: Largely seen as a Britney/Christina wannabe.

After: Jess became America's favorite ditz, released the best-selling album of her career, and made Daisy Dukes fashionable again.



#### Paris Hilton The Simple Life Before: Sort of

famous for being sort of famous—and for a certain night-vision sex tape (or so we heard). After: Got a record deal, launched her own perfume—and made a jail stay look "hot."



#### Stacy Keibler Dancing With the Stars

Before: Kicked ass as a WWE wrestler.

After: By flaunting her 42-inch gams in arenas that didn't involve 'roid rage and flop sweat, landed roles in movies like The Comebacks.



#### Tila Tequila A Shot at Love With Tila Tequila

Before: The Queen of MySpace, though her fame ended at the InterWeb's edges.

After: Thanks to her bisexual dating show, fans proclaimed Tequila their favorite poison.



#### Brooke Hogan Hogan Knows Best

Before: A fledgling pop star signed to the little-known label Trans. Continental Records. After: Nepotism at its best. Her true stardom led to Brooke's own reality spin-off, Brooke Hogan Knows Best.





I GIVE THE PAPARAZZI WHAT THEY WANT. IT'S THEIR JOB, WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT.





Stella McCartney bikini YSL shirt dress Giuseppe Zanotti shoes



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WHETHER THAT'S GOOD OR NOT IS UP TO YOU.



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PAGE





#### YOUR SUMMER OF ROCK

An insider's guide to the music fests worth going out of your way to see this season.

estival organizers generally entice you into the muddy fields—then leave you wanting. They pad the bill with emo bands, skimp on sound quality, and hire "security" that comes to rumble. "With so many festivals now, there are more chances to waste your money," says Gary Bongiovanni, editor of the concert industry mag Pollstar. To ensure you rock it right, we vetted hundreds of festivals to find the allaround best, no matter your taste. See you in the beer line.

#### The Intimate Gathering

#### ALL POINTS WEST August 8–10, Liberty State Park, N.J.

Fifty bands will converge on a lush lawn in Liberty State Park (with the Manhattan skyline as a backdrop) for All Points, one of the smallest of the big festivals (only 35,000 people).

Crowd-pleaser: Radiohead
Indie cred: The Roots,
Cat Power, Kings of Leon,
Animal Collective
Escape plan: The festival is
offering ferry rides to and from

Manhattan. Relish this trip, as it will offer the best—and only—New York breeze you'll enjoy in mid-August.

#### The Electronic Orgy

#### MUTEK May 28-June 1, Montreal

The world's preeminent knob twiddlers and DJs convene for a marathon of electronica and all its permutations. You can catch established turntablists as well as avant-garde upstarts who manipulate bizarre noises into trippy melodic feasts (or seizure-inducing headaches).
Crowd-pleaser: Radio Slave
Indie cred: Kode9 & Spaceape,
Kid Koala, Carl Craig
Escape plan: The dollar still has
purchasing power in Canada, so
you can act like a big playa in

#### The Music Snob Blowout

Montreal's notorious strip clubs.

PITCHFORK MUSIC FESTIVAL
July 18–20, Union Park, Chicago
Sponsored by the indier-thanthou music Web site Pitchfork,
it may have the summer's best
bill for aficionados.

Crowd-pleasers: Vampire
Weekend, Fleet Foxes,
Ghostface Killah & Raekwon
Indie cred: Public Enemy and
Mission of Burma are performing their seminal albums It Takes
a Nation of Millions to Hold Us
Back and Vs., respectively.

Escape plan: Head to Delilah's on North Lincoln Avenue for the late-night bar's deep whiskey menu, which features more than 350 brands to sip.

#### The Warm, Fuzzy Fest

#### OUTSIDE LANDS FESTIVAL August 22–24, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Located in the Bay Area's premier park, this is by far the greenest festival, with biodiesel generators and solar power charging the show. Plus, it boasts the world's largest valet parking service—for bikes.

Crowd-pleasers: Beck, Wilco Indie cred: Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings, Manu Chao Escape plan: Go to the wine tents, where you can taste the best vino from nearby Napa and Sonoma counties.







#### **FULL METAL JACKED**

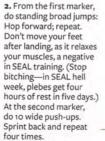
Get warrior tough with this 20-minute Navy SEAL workout.

ny Navy man can try out to be a member of the legendary SEALs. But three out of four will quit before the end of the 11-week weed-out program, the most physically grueling in the military. (The program motto: "The easiest day was yesterday." Damn.) The goal is to increase a recruit's pain threshold, so each drill

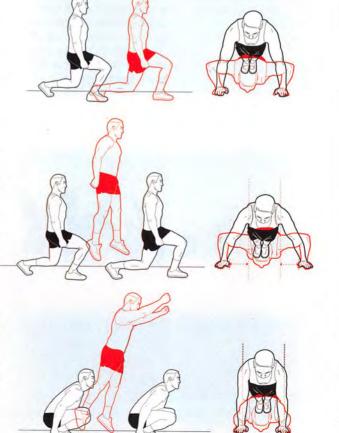
assaults multiple muscles and pushes endurance to a level most will never know. "We train the hell out of the recruits because on any given day we need guys who can do 12-hour dives, climb aboard a ship, and fight till it's ours," says Alden Mills, a former SEAL platoon commander. Skip your next spin class and do this total body, holy-shit-I-want-to-die workout ripped from the SEAL training manual. Good luck, ensign.

#### **Build Explosive Power**

1. Place two markers 20 yards apart. From the first marker, do walking lunges. On each lunge, keep your front thigh parallel to the ground. Yes, you'll look like a jackass—a jackass who eats Green Berets for lunch! At the second marker, do to push-ups. Sprint back and repeat four times.



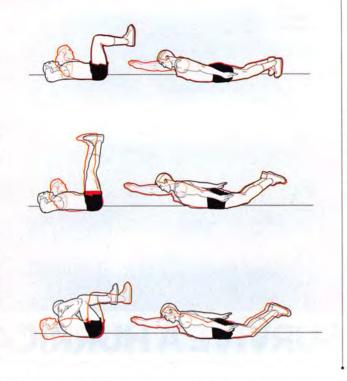
3. From the first marker, do scissor lunges: From the lunge position, leap forward and switch legs in midair, rightfully earning the title of Twinkle Toes Terminator. At the second marker, do 10 close-grip push-ups. Sprint back and repeat four times. Next, take a five-minute break. This is only the beginning.



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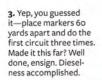
#### 2 Steel Your Core

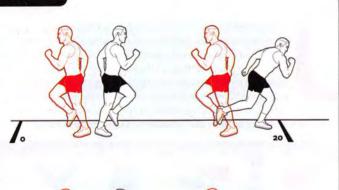
- 1. Do 30 reps of classic crunches. Then flip over and do arm haulers: Lift your head and chest up and stick your arms forward like a fallen drunk who thinks he's Superman. Then sweep them to your sides without touching the ground for 30 reps.
- 2. Do another 30 reps of crunches, but this time straighten your legs. Flip over and do 30 reps of arm haulers, but keep both feet several inches off the ground. The pain you feel now is good, apparently. "It lets you know you're still alive," Mills says. Thanks!
- 3. Finish this round with 30 reps of combo crunches: From the crunch position, bring your knees and elbows up to meet at the top of the movement. Unfold. Now do 30 arm haulers, but lift your legs and knees off the ground this time. Now get up, recruit, and prepare to run!

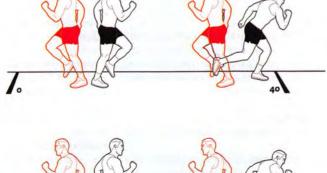


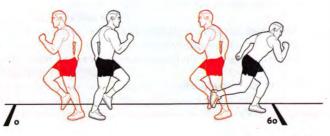
#### 3 Boost Your Endurance

- 1. From the first marker, do a half-speed run 20 yards to the second. Jog back, then do a three-quarter-speed run. Jog back, then do an all-out sprint. Dry your tears and repeat the circuit two more times. To keep your heart rate up, don't rest in between, but try to "recover" on the jogs.
- 2. Place markers 40 yards apart and do the first circuit three times. And remember: "If you don't feel like you're starting to die and/or puke at the end of the first few, then you're not putting up," says Mills.

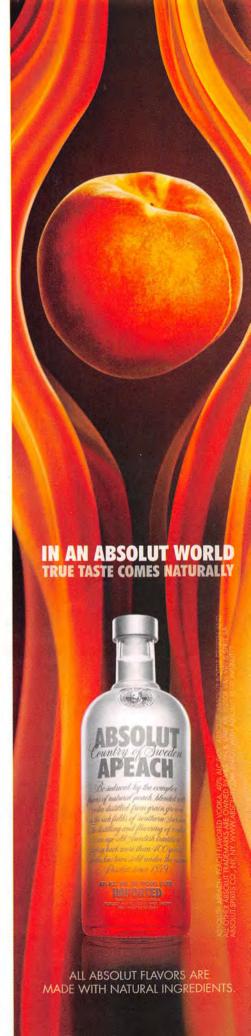


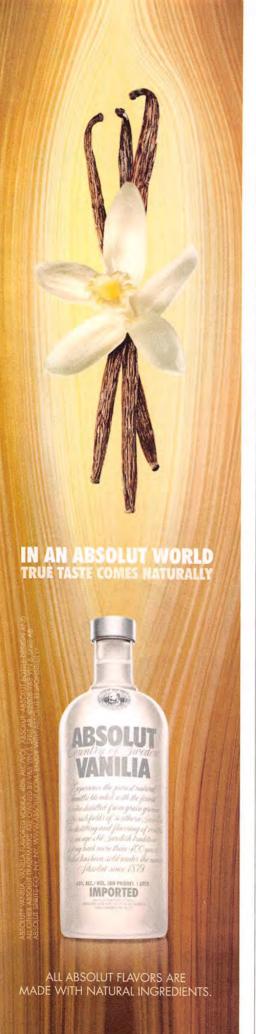






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#### **SURVIVE A HURRICANE**

June marks the start of the hurricane season. Will you persevere like a winner—or fold like a Frenchman?

ust because you don't live in a Gulf Coast state doesn't mean you're safe from a hurricane's spin cycle of death and destruction. If your ZIP code is within 100 miles of the Atlantic or even the Pacific, you're in the kill zone, says Jeff Masters, Ph.D., director of meteorology for the Weather Underground, the Internet weather service. Need proof? New England claims one of the biggest single hurricane death tolls, 120 mph winds have pummeled Oregon, and storm surges have drowned scores of Pennsylvanians. But despite the flooding, roof-shredding winds, and poststorm anarchy, tropical cyclones are survivable. Here's how to stare a hurricane down and emerge unscathed. See you in November.



#### Prestorm

One good thing about a hurricane: You know it's coming, giving you ample time to procrastinate before you really have to get your shit wired tight. Here's your hurry-the-hell-up shopping list for the ultimate survival stash.

- **Zippo, smokes.** (The smokes are our idea.)
- Camping stove. Because your gas will be out and large bonfires attract marauding, supplyless neighbors.
- **LED headlamps.** Yes, they make you look silly, but they work wonders when you're trying to load your gun at night. (*Petzl e+LITE*, \$30, from *Petzl.com*)
- Battery-less hand-crank radio. So you can hear the white noise of the apocalypse, Rush Limbaugh. (Etón FR300, \$50 etoncorp.com)

- First aid kit. And don't forget to include antidiarrhea meds in case your food supply gets doused in questionable runoff.
- Waterproof container. Stock with key paperwork: ID cards, insurance docs, property deeds. Toss in a few family photos as well, but make sure they're recent—Grandma's wedding picture from 1939 won't help the search party locate her in 2008.
- MP7A1rifle. Not a psycho? An airrifle or a slingshot with a sack of marbles will work just fine for what you'll soon be hunting. (See sidebar.)
- One last thing. Make sure your next block party isn't really awkward by bringing in all your lawn furniture, hanging plants, and Jarts sets. Hurricane gusts can turn these things into neighbor-slaying missiles.



When the hurricane begins smacking your abode, shut off all utilities, including the water. "During a flood the storm can overrun freshwater systems and render the stuff undrinkable," says Doug Ritter, director of the Equipped to Survive Foundation.

- Best place to ride it out. First floor bathtub with a mattress pulled over you. (When chunks of drywall start flying, you'll owe Serta your life.) Second best: a first floor interior room.
- Skip the basement. Most hurricane deaths are caused by flash floods. These unpredictable surges can flood communities with a wall of water in hours (see Katrina).
- Eve this. A lull in the action? Sunshine and blue skies overhead? Don't be fooled-it's the hurricane's eye. The second half of a hurricane is worse "because it picks up all the loose debris and throws it back at you in the opposite direction. Just sit tight," says Masters.

#### Aftermath

If you emerge from your bunker to neighbors waving firearms and "harvesting" song birds for food, the nightmare has just begun. "If it's anarchy, the National Guard will probably come. Still, you may be on your own for a few days." Those who didn't prepare will go on the offensive. "The key is not to broadcast that you have supplies," says Ritter. To avoid attention, cook in small batches. "Cooking smells travel, so do it on a small camping stove, not the huge backyard barbecue grill."

Catch and replenish. The general rule with water (for both cooking and drinking) is a gallon per person, per day. If your supply runs dry, use a tarp as a rain catch—lay itflat, hoist up corners, then pour the water into a clean container.

#### **Disaster Dining**

Foodgone? KFC's closed? Here's your all-natural menu from Tony Nester of Ancient Pathways, an Arizona-based survival school. Dig in.



#### **Dandelions**

Benefits: Vitamin A, serious roughage Taste: Like arugula, without the spice—or flavor. How to prepare: Pop the heads off the flowers, discard, rinse the leaves and roots, and chow down on a true weed salad.



#### Cattails

Benefits: Vitamin D. carbohydrates Taste: Like a cucumber, only grosser How to prepare: Peel the stalk from the root up and eat, or roast first for 40 minutes to an hour, then peel and eat.



#### Pine needles

Benefits: Vitamin C Taste: Like furniture

How to prepare: Simmer a handful of needles in water (don't boil, or you'll kill the nutrients) and drink it like it's tea. Enjoy the Pine-Sol aroma.



Benefits: Protein, portable Taste: White oak acorns (round leaf) taste like bitter walnuts; red oak (jagged leaf) taste how a burning tire smells. How to prepare: Roast whites; boil reds two hours.



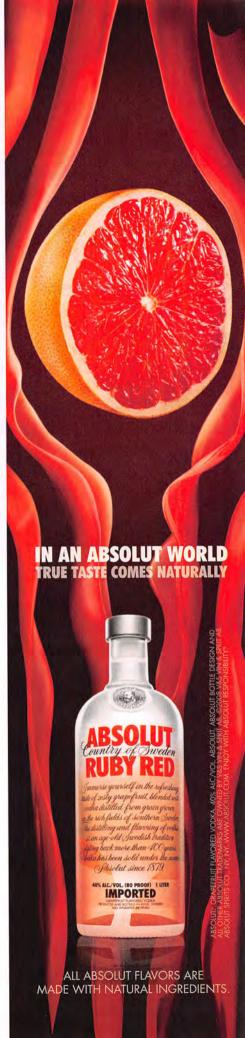
#### Rabbits and squirrels

Benefits: Protein, makes kids cry How to hunt: With a slingshot or rifle Taste: Gamy, but that's the least of your problems. How to prepare: Remove guts, head, skin. Boil in water for 30-40 minutes.



Benefits: Full of protein, Taste: Like rancid lamb Who: "Go for the jock,"

says Thomas Von Ohlen of the Advanced Center for Nutrition. "He eats best, so he tastes best.'







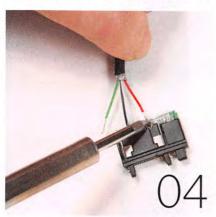
On the side of the supposedly disposable drugstore camcorder, remove the label warning that it can't be hooked up to a computer. (Sure it can: You just have to hack into it. Read on, geek boy.)



Take the m100 cable and, using the wire cutters, snip off the connector plug (the wider of the two) from the cable and remove the exposed wires that feed into the plug.



Cut the B, or female, end of the USB cable, revealing the four wires. To make the next step easier, be sure to have at least an inch of bare wire exposed.



Solder the wires into the m100 casing's pinhole in these positions — 6: red wire; 8: green wire; 9: white wire; 10: black wire. Connect the camcorder to the computer using the rigged cord.



Go to camcorderkitz1.exe and install the free software made by folks with way too much time on their hands. (Thanks, nerds!) It enables you to download your video onto your computer.



Record a video, then download. You can only download the most recent file, so be sure to delete it off the camcorder after downloading. Next stop, the Razzies.





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stitled from grain grown in
to rich fields of scuttlern norden.
A distilling and flavoring of veds.
If an age-old Invelish tradition
looks has been stell under the name
I should since 1879.

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### Country of Sweden

(15A)

Shelut Citron is made from natural citrus flavors and vodka sativat citrus feuvers and vedka distilled from grain grown whe rich fields of southern Needen Bedsidling and flavoring of vedka is an age-old Invedish tradition stang back more than 400 years Vedka has been sold under the name Absolut since 1879.

40% ALC./ VOL. (80 PROOF) 1 LITER
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Experience the fruity and structs flavor blended with velocities flavor beauty grain grown the right fields of southern from

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ALL ABSOLUT FLAVORS ARE MADE WITH NATURAL INGREDIENTS.

#### THE FIVE DEADLY VENOMS

Don't let America's most poisonous beasts ruin your summer (that's chronic psoriasis' job). Study our essential chart to avoid the wrath of the sting.



Timber rattlesnake



Brown recluse spider



Bark scorpion



Portuguese man-of-war



Killer bees



Location

Any wooded or grassy area in the eastern half of the country. Its cousin the diamondback prowls the West. The entire south central portion of the country—often in homes, where they like to set up shop in shoes and even bedding.

Rock piles, forests, and—like the boogeyman under your bed if you live in the southwestern United States. The Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic as far north as New Jersey. Yes, they're attracted to IROC-Zs and gay governors. Abandoned structures like doghouses (or meth trailers) throughout Texas and nearby southern states.



Danger

The cocktail of poisons in the venom stops blood coagulation and can cause cardiac arrest. Did we mention the pain lasts for days?

A bite won't kill you, but the necrotic wound it leaves behind will rot your flesh down to the bone. Its neurotoxins can give you muscle contractions and fill your lungs with fluid, which could literally drown you. Fun! If you don't drown while falling prey to an allergyinduced shock, you'll survive with some permanent chemical burns. Its venom is weaker than a honeybee's, but when 1,000 attack, it more than makes up the difference.



Defense

Their fangs can pierce canvas, so skip the tennis shoes and lace up the leather shit kickers. And make noise—a spooked snake bites. If you feel one crawling down your neck, gently brush it off. Smacking it will guarantee a poisonous bite. Seal wall foundations and doorjambs; if two credit cards fit into a crevice, so can the deadly scorpion. Heavy winds can blow them toward the shore. Watch for tentacles washed up on the beach, which can still sting you. If you're within 100 feet of a nest, they'll mark you as an intruder. So if you spy a cloud of buzzing death nearby, run!



Treatment

Sucking the bite only spreads the poison. Head to a hospital for antivenom. Bring your credit card: A dose is \$1,000. Doctors will give you steroids or Dapsone. If necrosis sets in, they'll carve out the dead tissue like a melon ball. Elevate the bite area to reduce swelling, and if you can't handle the pain, head to the hospital for some antivenom. It peppers your skin with poison darts, called nematocysts. Stay in the salt water and scrape clean with a shell. Use the edge of a credit card to scrape stingers off. But the bees' toxins can strain the heart, so head to the ER.

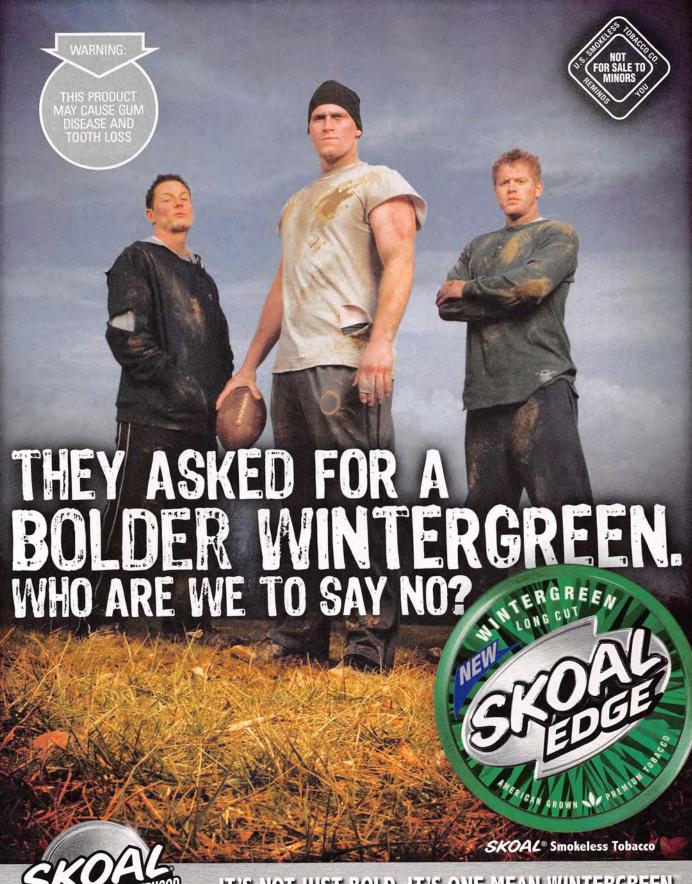


#### **Killer Cocktail**

Take a swig of the manliest vino ever made: cobra wine.



Get ready for a real snakebite: Cobra wine packs a whole cobra into a jar of rice wine for this bio-lab-looking libation reputed to enhance the performance of the trouser snake. The alcohol nullifies its venom, so it's safe for swilling (unless you have open sores in your esophagus). It's legal in Vietnam—for now. Support is growing to ban the popular reptilian hooch. Turns out with so many cobras bottled up, the rat population is spiking.



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# STYLE E

### ON/THE/ROAD

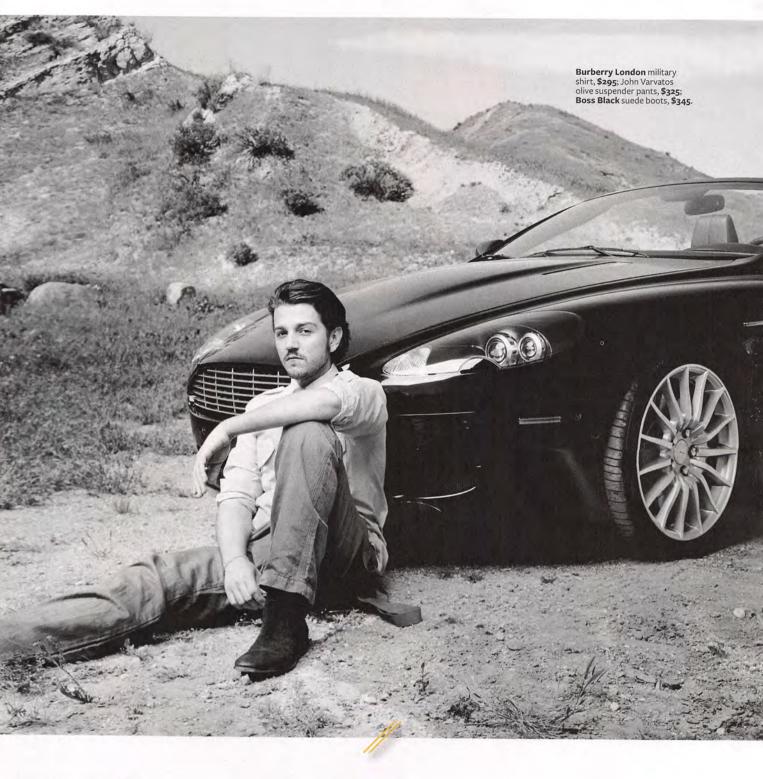
IN HIS 20 YEARS ON-SCREEN, MEXICAN ACTOR
DIEGO LUNA HAS SEEN A LOT,
BUT HIS LATEST ADVENTURE IS THE STRANGEST YET.

Youprobably recognize Diego Lunafromthe 2001 indie classic Y Tu Mamá También. Your girlfriend may recognize him from Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights. But few will recognize him when he dons epaulets and a Jheri curl to play a Michael Jackson impersonator in his new film, Mister Lonely. The surrealist dramedy from Kids scribe Harmony Korine is the latest, strangest addition to Luna's career. Acting since the age of seven, the Mexico City native had already starred in numerous telenovelas and 12 feature films before his turn in

YTuMamá. Costarring Luna's real-life best friend, Gael García Bernal, it tells the story of two buddies road-tripping across Mexico while getting hot and heavy with the sexy older woman along for the ride. Along the way he's become a teen heartthrob, shared a red-hot sex scene with Salma Hayek in Frida, and become something of a fashion icon. Now the 28-year-old is shooting an altogether different kind of bromance, Gus Van Sant's Oscar-bait biopic, Milk, with Sean Penn, Emile Hirsch, and Josh Brolin.

BY NOELLE HANCOCK PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT MAXWELL
STYFING BY ALLAN KENNEDY





#### Man on the Move

"I think staying in one place can be very dangerous if you're an actor, because you'll find yourself doing the same things over and over," says Luna, who easily moves back and forth between American and Mexican films. "It's important to travel and go on new adventures and take risks and meet other people around the world. It's a job that allows you to do that, so you'd be stupid if you didn't take full advantage of it."

Because he's been a celebrity back home for so long, Luna relishes the chance to escape. "In Mexico the fans feel like they own me. They've known me since I was seven; they knew me

when I was fat; they knew all my girlfriends; they know the good, the bad, and everything," says Luna. "The States might know a few films I've done, but I can hide my dirty past!"

#### **Putting Down Roots**

That's not to say he's ready to pull up stakes. In February he married 22-year-old Mexican actress Camila Sodi, and last year he started a production company called Canana Films with García Bernal. "I come from a country that doesn't have a big industry, and I wanted to contribute in some way," says Luna, who made his directorial debut last year with a documentary

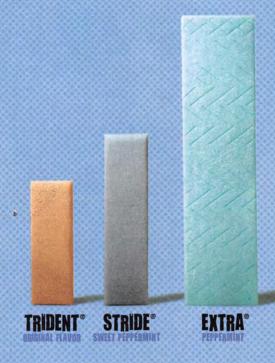
about Mexican boxing legend Julio César Chávez. "I wanted to be involved not just as an actor, but as a producer. Because when you're acting, you need time off to go live life and then bring that back to your work. This is a way to celebrate what's happening to us, but with other people."

In the meantime, every Saturday he's not working you'll find Luna at his home in Mexico playing soccer with his local club team. "It's the best sport for getting all the tension out." Just don't expect any celebratory moonwalking after he scores a goal. "No way!" he says. "Those cleats are impossible to slide in."





# LONG. LONGER. LONGER.





THAN THAT





#### Photography Credits

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Dench/Corbis; Cantu, Darren Hauck/Corbis pp.80-92: Girl in bikini, Amyn Nasser/Corbis; screwhound, Renee Comet Photography/Stock Food; burger, James Carriere courtesy of Fresh Stock; toy boat, Dorling Kindersley/ Getty Images; drive-in, Frank Whitney/Getty Images; movie screen, courtesy Everett Collection; sumo wrestlers, Andrew Freund; Rihanna, ShowBiz Ireland/Getty Images; Barkley, Barry Brechelsen/Wirelmage; Pussycat Dolls, Paul Hawthorne/Getty Images; Fat Joe, Brad Barket/Getty Images; Lawn Jarts, Jupiter Images; barbecue, AP Photo/ Richard Drew; historical Speedo image, Bettmann/Corbis; Stewart, Rex Features; Schwarzenegger, Splash; Hogan, Juan Garces/Splash News; Bonaroo, Jeff Kravitz/Getty Images; mini golf, Greg Holmes/Thelope.com; books, Dorling Kindersley/Getty Images (4); monks on a roller coaster, Ataboy/Getty Images; fans at Comic-Con, Denis Poroy/AP; custard sign, Danita Delimont/Alamy; Attell, Ethan Miller? Staff/Getty Images; fried Oreo, Rob Mifsud pp.94-100: MacGowan portrait, Andy Hall/Contour-Photos.com; Pogues onstage, Smea/LFI London; younger MacGowan holding drink, Francis Hills/Corbis Outline; MacGowan and microphone, Peter Doherty/Retna UK; MacGowan holding plaque, Steve Rapport/LFI; MacGowan and graffiti, Janette Beckman/Retna Ltd.; Mac-Gowan at Clash gig, Ian Dickson/Redferns/musicpictures. com; Pogues group shot, T.S./LFI London; Richards, Retna Ltd; Doherty, Fee/Capital Pictures/Renta Ltd; Weiland, Getty Images; Iggy Pop and Osbourne, Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images (2) p.116: Tyson, Reuters/Corbis; Bowe, Richard Mackson/Sports Illustrated; Briggs, Lauren Segall/Icon SMI; Judah, Reuters/C.J.; Jacobs, Anthony DelMundo/Daily News p.122: Simpson and Keibler, Neal Peters Collection (2); Hilton, courtesy Everett Collection; Tila Tequila, Zach Cordner p.128: Men carrying log, Karen Kasmauski/Corbis pp.130-131: Zippo, Hugh Threlfall/Alamy; rifle, Redfx/Alamy; first aid kit, Corbis Super RF/Alamy; stove, Jupiter Images; radio, courtesy of Eton Corporation; headlamp, courtesy of Pexl.com; container, Dorling Kindersley/Getty Images; beach, Eduardo Verdugo/AP Photo; dandelions and rabbit, Photodisc/Alamy (2); cattails, Jupiter Images/Brand X/Alamy; pine needles, Markos Dolopikos/Alamy; squirrel, PBWPIX/Alamy; red oak acorn, FoodFolio/Alamy; white oak acorns, Michael McMurrough/Alamy; jock, Darrin Klimek/Getty Images p.134: Rattlesnake, Joel Sartore/NGS Image Collection; spider, Phil Degginger/Alamy; scorpion, David A. Northcott/Corbis; man-of-war, Stuart Westmorland/Getty Images; bee, Rich Pedroncelli/AP Photo; boot, credit card, and doghouse, Stockbyte/Getty Images (3); cobra wine, Michael Freeman/Corbis p.156: Capitol building, RH Productions/ Getty Images; accountant, headhunters/Getty Images; older woman, Digital Vision/Getty Images; Larry the Cable Guy, courtesy Everett Collection; football, Burazin/Getty Images; hat, Stockbyte/Getty Images; shell, Stockbyte/ Getty Images; shirtless man, Radius Images/Alamy, fishtail, Alamy; menorah, Susan Vogel/Getty Images; soccer ball, Lazi 8 Mellenthin/Getty Images; Obama, Alex Wong/Getty Images (2); Pokeman, courtesy Everett Collection; saxophone, Dorling Kindersley/Getty Images; polo player, Paul Conrath/Getty Images; car, Newscom; man in plaid shirt, Thinkstock/Corbis; Flavor Flav, courtesy Everett Collection; Village People member, Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images; Roundtree, Silverscreen Collection/Getty Images

#### Where to Buy



#### DEIGO LUNA

Page 137: Prada plaid shirt, \$450, select Prada Boutiques, 888-977-1900; Paul Smith wool vest, \$700; Paul Smith wool vest, \$700; Paul Smith wool pants, \$950, Paul Smith store, New York, 646-613-3060 Page 138: Burberry London military shirt, \$295, burberry.com; Rogan neck tie, \$120, rogannyc.com; John Varvatos suspender pant, \$325, johnvarvatos.com; BOSS Black suede boots, \$345, Boss store, New York Page 139: John Varvatos voile shirt, \$245, Bloomingdale's; Rag & Bone pants, \$245, denimbaronline.com Page 140: Unis cotton stripe shirt, \$245; Unis cotton stripe vest, \$205; Unis store, New York, 212-431-5533; Rogan Men's Original pants, \$250, rogannyc.com; John Varvatos ankle boot, \$365, John Varvatos stores Page 142: Boss Black suit, \$895; BOSS Black shirt, \$145, 800-HUGO-BOSS.

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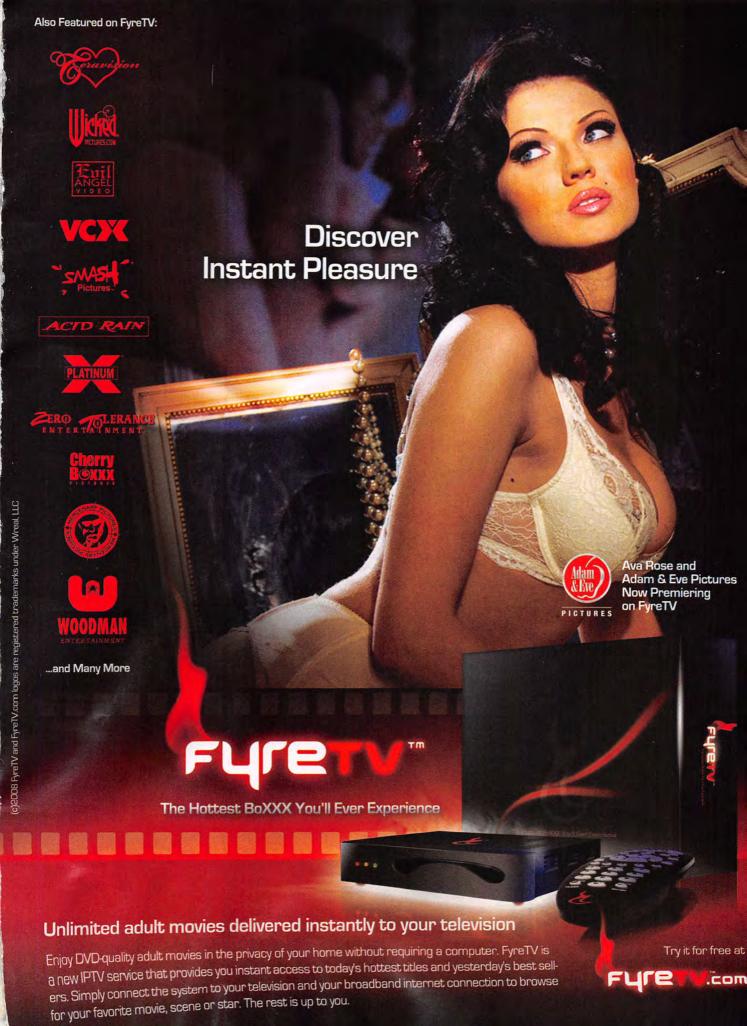
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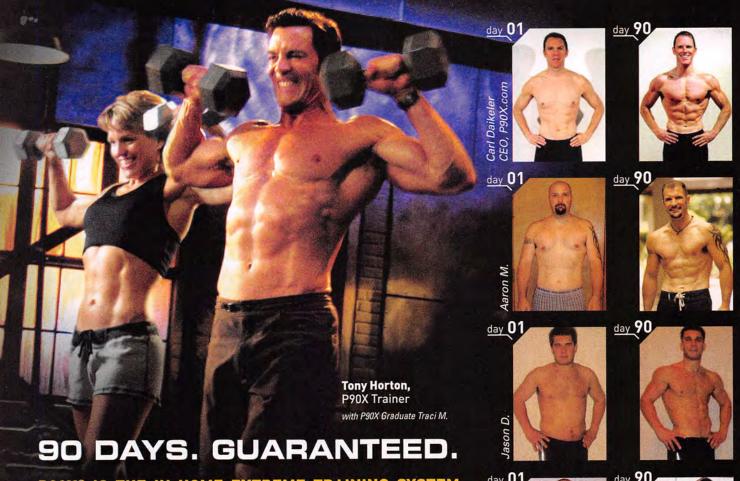
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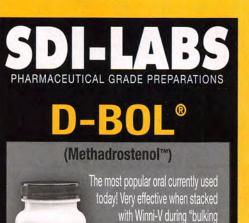
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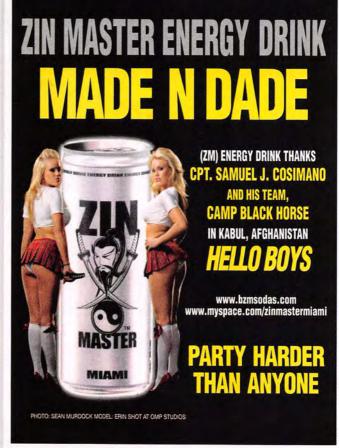
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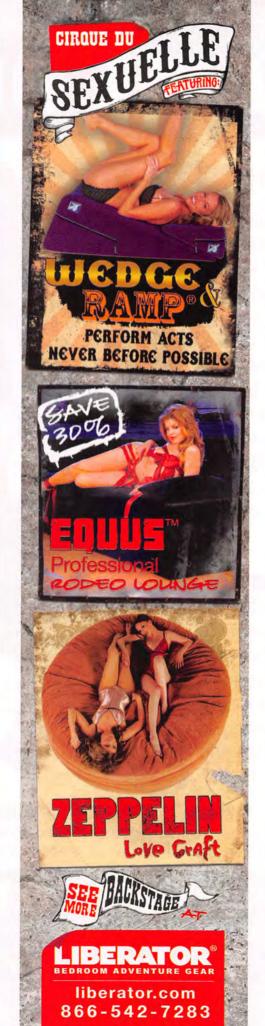
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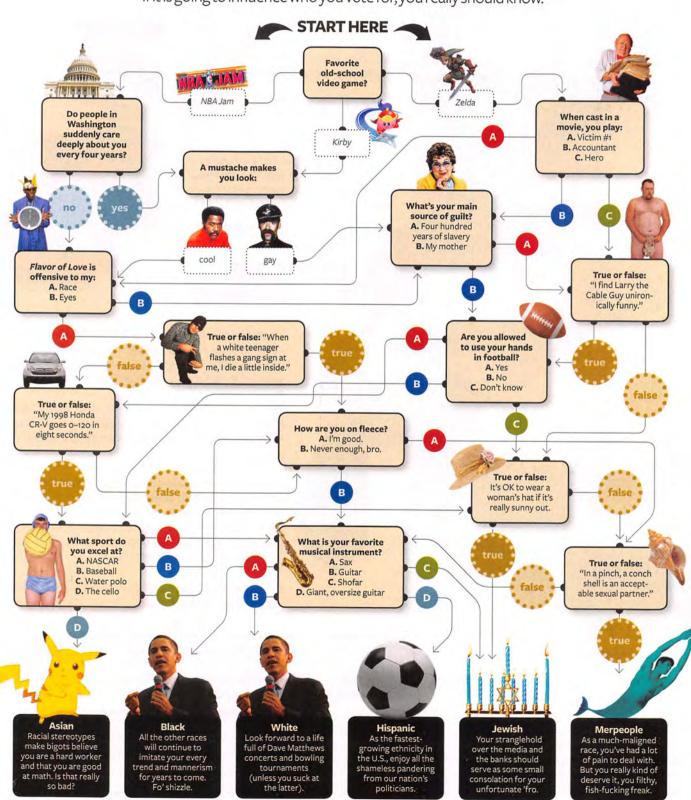
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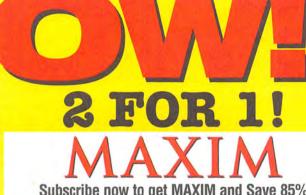
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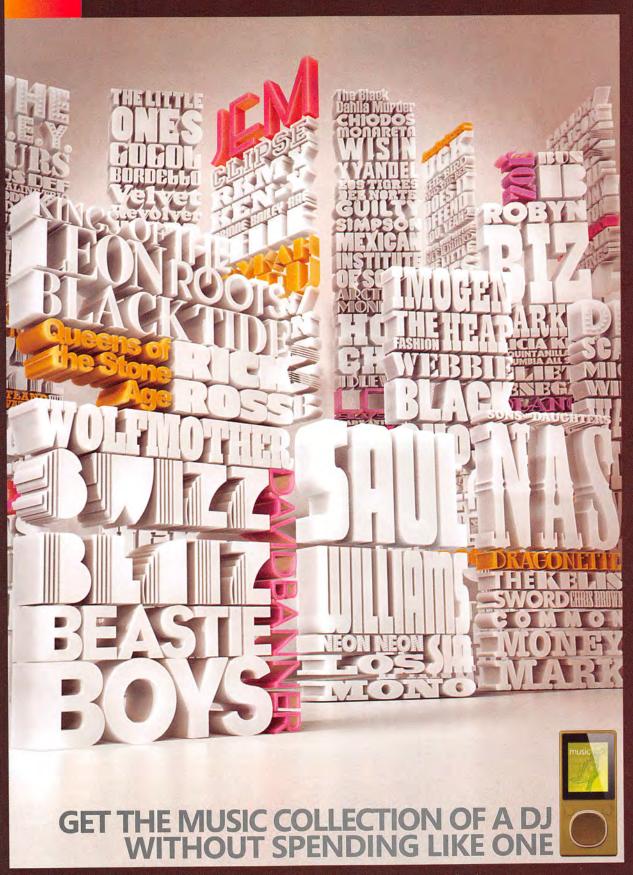
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